

A SHORT
E S S A Y
U P O N

Trade in general,

But more ENLARGED on that BRANCH relating to
the WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES of

Great Britain and Ireland;

Wherein is detected

The scandalous Exaggerations and Calculations

O F

Mess. Webber, London, and the Draper;

A N D A L S O

A METHOD propos'd to prevent the Owling
of unmanufactur'd Wool, by a Publick Registry,
at such Expence, that the Crown may not suffer,
or the Grower of Wool be oppress'd.

Humbly address'd to the Lords Commissioners of
TRADE and PLANTATIONS.

By a Lover of his Country, and the Constitution of
G R E A T - B R I T A I N .

L O N D O N :

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[COWPER.]



*To the Right Honourable the Lords
Commissioners of Trade and Plan-
tations,*

The following Essay is most humbly submitted.

My LORDS,



H A T is now proposed for your Lordships perusal (some small Variations excepted) was designed to appear during the sitting of the last Parliament at the Time the Honourable the House of Commons was considering of proper Methods to prevent the pernicious Practice of Smuggling, Running, or Owling Wool, the Growth of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, to Foreign Parts, Unmanufactured, or not fully Manufactured. But that House coming to a Resolution, that your Lordships should consider what was necessary to be done in the Premises, and make a Report with your Opinion thereon, to the succeeding Parliament, it was Postponed, and I should with great Difficulty have prevailed upon myself to appear now, believing with that Honourable House your Lordships equal to the Undertaking, whose proper and Honourable Employments are the Guardianship and Care of the Trade of this Kingdom, by much the greatest any Nation in Europe can boast of, or perhaps

B

any

any other on this Globe, and that part in Question the most valuable Branch of it.

But your Lordships, contrary to the Self-sufficiency of some of the Authors who have wrote upon this Subject, have by publick Advertisment in the Gazette, desired such who have any Thing to offer on that Subject to let you know of it; I therefore, my Lords, shall give my Thoughts, and should they not be found so useful (as I humbly hope and am in Opinion they may) I should think myself an Enemy to my Country, as well as undutiful to your Lordships if I should stifle them; therefore I will endeavour to imitate your Lordships Example, and behave with all the Modesty the Subject will admit of; and shall lay before you the best Probabilities I can collect, to Answer the End demanded, and cure every Defect, with your Lordships Improvement, that at Present is, or hereafter may be, if carefully adhered to: And as what I shall offer is more designed for the Publick Good, than my own private Advantage, I shall be glad to be set right in any Particular wherein I shall err; and then I am well assured the Premises laid down will have such effect, that your Lordships must be truly inform'd in any Thing wherein I am deficient. If I should fail in Diction or Method, I am perswaded your Lordships will excuse it as not absolutely necessary in a Treatise on Trade.

I am now, my Lords, to acquaint you with the particular Articles that will be touched upon in this Essay; and shall begin first with examining what has been said on the Subject in Question by the several Authors who have wrote upon it (to wit) MUNN, the Author of the Golden Fleece; WEBBER, LONDON, and the DRAPER,

The

The two first wrote without any design of casting Odium or Reflection on the Government; but WEBBER and the rest of them have wrote like Men insisted under the Banner of Sedition; their Works are calculated for those Purposes as well as with sinister Views to themselves, being full of unwarrantable and scandalous Exaggerations and Calculations drawn from wrong Principles and Computations, unfairly given both as to Price, Quantity, and Time.

I would not, my Lords, be understood in any Manner to favour the Smugglers of our Wool, for I think if but 20,000 Packs instead of 500,000 (as the above Authors insinuate and assert) should annually be sent abroad, our Nation would suffer more than a Million Sterling; and we had better settle such a Pension on any Foreign Dominion than indulge them in the manner aforesaid, which may be shewn hereafter; as also several other Causes that affect the Woollen Manufacture, besides Smuggling and contribute to its Decay (I hope worthy your Lordships Consideration) with some Proposals to effect their Cure, and restore the said Trade to its antient Vigour and Strength. For as Children for want of good Nursing, may grow Ricketty, so Trade, my Lords, in general, and every particular, if not well attended and taken care of, will grow Weak and Feeble, and become burthensome to the Nation, that otherwise would be of the greatest Service. It has been said indeed by some, that Trade should be under no Restraint, for it will naturally find its proper Channel if its left to run its own Course, and enrich those who carry it properly on: Which is true as to Individuals; but the contrary is the National and publick Interest. For Trade may be profitable to Particulars, that's totally detrimental to the Publick, therefore ought to be restrained. There is also Trade where In-

dividuals lose and the Nation gains, and Trade that is Reciprocall : Others that may be carried on to a National Advantage, though managed by Barter, where the Ballance is paid by Us in Money : All and every of which, tho' well known to your Lordships may be shewn to the Publick.

I shall farther exhibit Calculations of my own in various ways, by none of which I can find any Probability there is any near Thing the Quantity of Wool, of the Growth of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, that is said to be sent Abroad Annually. In which (I wish for the Publick Good) I may be mistaken, but I am afraid the lowest of my Calculations makes more than will be found to grow amongst Us ; but that cannot be sufficiently demonstrated till an Account is taken by Register ; yet I should imagine a pretty near View may be taken, and it would not be amiss to attempt it, that it may be known when the Act shall pass how to fix the Expence at such a Rate, that the Government may not be losers, nor the Growers oppress'd. Therefore, I shall give my Thoughts how it may be done ; and what Foreign Wool, and in what Manufacture, two Packs of Foreign Wool will mix with one of ours. And I deny that such Wool as they have represented the *French* and *Dutch* to be, will do this.

I shall farther attempt to make a probable Calculation of the Quantity of Woollen Goods made at Home, with the Price of Labour, and the Wool in most of the sorts of Goods ; and conclude with my own Opinion as to the publick Registry, and in what manner it may be managed, and the number of Hands necessary, with some other Observations not yet treated upon.

Mr. MUNN, in his Preface, tells us in the Year 1723, he was about purchasing 100 Packs of Wool at *Newport*, in the Isle of *Wight*, which he
not

not taking was sold to *France*, as he was informed. That in the Years 1725, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36, he was Abroad, and saw landed in the several Years what I compute about a thousand Packs of *English* or *Irish* Wool; and believes that Foreigners have our Wool, otherwise they could not carry on their Stuff Manufactory. (POSSIBLY IT MAY BE SO) But I should apprehend Wool so mixed as ours is, *Fine and Long*, blended with theirs, that is *short, Sour and Course*, besides *Sticheld Hair*, lessen the Value of the Commodity manufactured in Proportion to the Quantity of the bad mixed with the good, as ours doth Cloth when mixed with *Spanish Wool*; and be far differing from Mr. LONDON, (who makes the best Wool but 4*l.* per Pack) owns that the Wool which groweth betwixt *Hewford, Rois*, and the *Old Gore*, was sold at *Hewford and Rois Fairs* for 20*l.* per Pack; and that the Wool of the South, down in *Suffex*, is pretty near as valuable.

His Introduction is, that the Wealth of a Nation consists in the Multitude of its Inhabitants thereby employed in the Manufactory of Materials of their own Growth, for their own and Foreign Consumption; and tells us that the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* hath such a superior Quality in it, that if we suffer it not to be Owled, but Manufacture it at home, it will command such Trade as will be better to Us than the Mines of *Peru* and *Mexico* are to *Spain*.

He farther says that the Wool coveted Abroad and Owled, is chiefly combing Wool, tho' there is long Wool grows in *North Holland*, *Zealand*, and about *Ghent* and *Lovain*, but no ways equal to ours in Goodness, so infers that ours is Owled there in large Parcels; but no where pretends to name the Quantity: Whereas Mr. WEBBER, LONDON, and the DRAPER have assured it to be 500,000
Packs

Packs Yearly, *which I apprehend to be above 100,000 Packs more than grows in both Kingdoms.* He then enumerates the several sorts of Goods made of combed Wool only, and what Sort of Goods are mixed with it, (*viz.*) of combing Wool, Silk, Cotton, Mohair, Spinnel, or Linnen; and the *French* making all these Commodities, he imagines it must be with our Wool; and mentions likewise upwards of 200 different Trades depending on the Woollen Manufactory. He introduces even the Parson and Landlord as interested in the same; *which is true (if we take in all that are remotely related to it) and in this Sense the whole Nation are interested in every Manufacture we have; we all depending one on another. And as they fill us with People and consume the Produce of our Land, which gives Value to it, the same Value returns again from the Gentleman to the Peasant, Tradesman, Labourer, &c.*

He further says, that if we keep not our Wool at home unmanufactured, the *French* and *Flemings*, who rival us in that Branch by help of our own Wool, underworking us 30 *l.* per Cent, as also making a better Commodity, (tho' of mix'd Wool) that they undersel us 10 or 12 per Cent. in Foreign Markets.

That if we suffer our Wool to go abroad, our Manufactures must follow it; they then will serve us as before Queen *Elizabeth's* Time they did with the Woollen Manufactory for our own use. He says the Foreigners have Laws among themselves to keep down the Price of Labour, *which our other Authors want to have advanced here: how far the above Observations deserve the Consideration of Parliament may be shewed hereafter.*

The Author of the Golden Fleece in the same Manner the other hath done, but with a different regard

regard to the Manufacturers, after quoting two or three Acts of Parliament to prevent the exporting our Wool and Fuller's Earth, *now of little use to us*, asserts that *Spanish Wool* can't be used unless mix'd with ours; *In which he is much mistaken, for there is no Wool but Spanish in our superfine Cloths* (the List excepted) as MUNN has also fully shewn in his Treatise.

He makes a Declaration in Favour of the Labourers, who he would have protected and encouraged in their several Callings, so as may enable them to live comfortably by the Fruits of their Labour; and as they contribute to the Welfare of their Country, it is but reasonable the Legislature should give them Encouragement and Protection, the Labour of the meaner sort of People being of too great Value to be neglected or be despised by a Trading Nation, much less the Manufacturers; And as we can't but be sensible that their Maintenance and Labour is much dearer than in other Nations; yet notwithstanding they have in Proportion the same right to subsist, and wants to supply, which cannot be obtained but by keeping our Wool at home.

He then gives us a Calculation what Hands are necessary to Manufacture three Packs in one Week, and indeed gives a sufficient Price to maintain our Labourers well, as under.

If he means Packs of Wool clear of waste, which is full $\frac{1}{4}$, as I do in my last Calculation, then I employ 936 Hands where he employs but 365.

One Pack of Wool made into Broad Cloth.

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1	To Sort and Dry it —————	0	8	0
	Dying and Cleaning —————	1	10	0
4	Men } to Scribe it —————	2	8	0
2	Boys }			
30	Women and Girls to Card and Spin it	6	0	0
4	Boys to Spool and Wind Quills —	0	10	0
4	Men } to Scour it, full, row, and preft	3	4	0
1	Boy }			
8	Weavers —————	4	16	0
4	Women to Burle it —————	0	12	0
58	in a Week will earn —————	19	8	0

One Ditto Combing Wool for Stuffs.

6	Combers at 12 s. —————	3	12	0
	Dying, &c. —————	1	10	0
120	Spinners, at 2 s. 3 d. —————	13	10	0
10	Throwers and Daublers, at 8 s. —	4	0	0
22	Weavers, at 10 s. —————	11	0	0
158		33	12	0

One Ditto for Stockings.

9	Combers, at 10 s. —————	4	10	0
	Dying, &c. —————	1	10	0
76	Spinners —————	13	0	0
8	Doublers and Throwers —————	2	8	0
56	Weavers, at 12 s. —————	33	12	0
149		55	0	0

Total Hands employed 365. Sum } 108 0 0
 Total ————— }
 which is about 5 s. and 11 d. *per* Week, one with
 another for Labour.

By the *aforesaid Account*, it must follow } 1.
 as often as 50,000 Packs are Owled, so } 1,800,000
 often will Great Britain lose.

And so often will the Number of Persons out of Employment be 117,353.

Besides it's a received Opinion, that }
 300,000 Packs by Connivance, &c. } 5,400,000
 are sent Abroad, by which Great Britain loses if but half the Quantity.

And the Number of Manufacturers deprived of Employment will be 352,059.

Besides the Diminution of the Merchants Profits, and the hurt done to our Navigation, and tho' the Quantity be more or less it will bear the same Proportion.

He harps still on the same String, and saith, the supposed Quantity is 300,000 Packs. But should it be but 150,000, that will work with 300,000 of Foreign, and produce a Manufacture of 45,0000 Packs; so then if the 150000 Packs were kept at home, Turkey, Spain, Portugal, and other Foreign Countries, would want from Great Britain 45,0000 Packs in Room of the like Quantity furnished by other Countries; who in this Case would have none of these Manufactured Goods, which must of Course increase the Demand here, and advance the Prices, gives an Example to prove it, and says we may fix our own Price, as the *Hollanders* do in their Spices. (*These would be happy Times indeed.*)

He proposes a Method to prevent Smuggling, one Penny per Pound, or 20 s. per Pack, Duty on Wool, and a general Register; and that the Duty on Hides, Candles, Soap, painted Silks, and Starch be taken off, which produces Gross 558,169*l.* Communibus Annis for five Years past, beginning at 1734, and saith the Nation will not pay one

Shilling in lieu of ten, tho' the least Sum proposed to be raised is 600000 *l.* annually by Wool, out of which is to be paid for

	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
Twenty four Register Ships	23920	600000
For Charges of Officers—	13742	
Taxes ————	709	
For Ditto Candles	13495	62618
Taxes ————	824	
On Soap ————	9490	
Taxes ————	438	
		Neat Produce 537382

He allows that he may be mistaken in the quantity of Wool, but answers when that is known the necessary Sum may be raised, *so it may happen to be a Duty of 40 s. per Pack, on Wool, which will at present be a very unpopular Tax: And how we pay but 1 s. in lieu of 10 s. is a Mystery, when the Tax taken off is less than the Tax to be imposed.*

Now to Mr. WEBBER: He tells us in his Dedication to my Lord Mayor, Court of Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of *London*, the Damage sustained to *Great Britain*, in suffering *France* to have our Wool unwrought in such a manner, that we grow every Day poorer and *France* richer.

That exporting our Wool is our Weakness and their Strength, by which they have been enabled to improve their Manufacturies, who work cheaper than we, can supplant us, and undersell us in Foreign Markets.

That an effectual Remedy hath been often studied, but invented never 'till now; which he offers and ventures to call it an effectual one, because allowed

ed by all that understand Trade, and not denied to be such by any of the Ministry ; by which he will undertake under any Penalty, to bring from Foreigners into the Treasury, annually a Milljon, and to the Interest of Land and Trade about seven Millions, so that the King and his Subjects have lost above sixty Millions, and *France* has gained above twice as much, by his Scheme not being accepted near nine Years since, tho' recommended by the hands of more then 600000 Traders, the DRAPER says Woolen Traders. (*This is only an Ipse Dixit.*)

In his Remonstrance to my Lord Mayor, &c. and Address to the Prince of *Wales*, he says he might have said instead of seven, more than 20,000,000 ; then the loss to *England* would have been 180,000,000, and 360,000,000 gained to *France* (*a monstrous Sum to be lost by us, and gained by the French in so small a Time,*) but the worthy DRAPER has improved this Loss to more than 200,000,000, and *France's* Gain to above 400,000,000.

That he applyed to his Majesty, who ordered the Attorney General to form a Charter, but an Act of Parliament being thought to be necessary, tho' he hath applyed ever since (notwithstanding his Scheme is so beneficial) hath not been able to obtain one, nor access to his Majesty to represent Matters to him ; for he hath either been refused Admittance, or not allowed time to speak.

Therefore he intreats them for their own sakes, their Families, their Countries, their Kings, to Petition the Parliament, or address his Majesty that his Scheme may be considered, and he heard ; and if he is a bold and ignorant Pretender, he submits to be Punish'd, &c. But if Truth is of his

side, to be regarded ; for he will shew we must be ruin'd unavoidably, if we don't prevent owling our Wool, which can be done no way (not by Officers) but by an universal Register and a Charter.

He says Page the 4th, that unmanufactured Wool at the Peace of *Ryswick* sold from 12 to 14 and 16 Pounds per Pack, and some Pages after it now sells from 4 *l.* 10 *s.* to 5 *l.* per Pack.

Page 6th, that the intelligent Reader may not doubt the want of Hands, a Patriot Nobleman informed him that he had taken the pains to procure an Estimate of the number of Poor on the Parish Books in *England*, and found 1400,000, 300,000 of which were Orphans or Persons incapable to Work, the remaining 1100,000 were fit for Labour.

Page the 8th. In 1703, Wool rose from 9 and 11 Pounds, to 12 and 14 Pounds per Pack, and our Manufactures were in Proportion ; this Price held 'till 1707. In 1708 it fell again, as he says by Owling, or Smugling ; for those that were in the *French* Interest, used to Ship Wool without Convoy, which was sure to be taken.

And that a Merchant offered to join with him in running Wool to *France*, promising to procure a *French* Pass, which might be had for three Pounds, which he refused. Then Wool fell to 8 *l.* 10 *s.* which the *French* mix'd with theirs, not worth more then 2 *l.* or 2 *l.* 10 *s.* per Pack ; by which means the *French* underfold us, and Wool continued falling till it fell to 7 *l.* or 7 *l.* 10 *s.* But in the Year 1719, the Plague broke out in *France*, and our Wool rose to 12 *l.* a Pack ; These Facts he says undeniably shew, the cause of the Rise and Fall of our Wool and the Manufacturers thereof ; as also point out a Method for their Cure.

He

He believes it to be true, that 800,000 Packs are grown in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and that *France* hath 500,000 of them yearly, and saith, whenever we are at War with *France*, our Manufactures advance.

Page 14. That Labour is so cheap here now, that thirty-two are employed to do the Work of twelve: That the Master may rob each Journeyman 1 s. per Week; which Agreement each of them shall allow, under Pretence of Lodging, tho' they have none from him; by which Means he hath known a Journeyman have no more than 4 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ to receive on *Saturday* Night for the Support of himself and Family; (*the same frequently happens where Journeymen earn 14 s. per Week*) instead of receiving 4 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ run in Debt.

That in the Year 1698, 150,000 l. Value of Woollen Goods was bought at *Bristol* Fair, in eight Days, by *Dutch* and *Spanish* Merchants, besides what was shipped from *Minehead*, *Barnstable*, *Bideford*, *Topsam*, or *Exon*, along the South Channel, *London*, *Bocking*, *Baintree*, *Norwich*, and *Yarmouth*, and what was exported from *Ireland*, which then had a free Trade from *Cork*, *Youghal*, *Waterford*, and *Dublin*.

N. B. *Bocking* and *Baintree* are no Ports, neither was ever any Goods sent from thence abroad, but first underwent some Manufacture from *London*. *Yarmouth* is the Port to *Norwich*, but itself a Place of no Manufacture in the Woollen Way, no Matter, it tells and adds to the Number of Places, therefore swells the Account, and magnifies what he is Writing upon, an Exaggeration no body has taken notice of, nor any other of the same kind, tho' he and his Brother Authors abound in 'em.

He .

He farther saith, that he was told by a Great Man that there was no need of a Register, when we might command Foreign Markets, by under-working them, viz. the *French*, and lowering the Price of *English* Labour. To which he answers, it is much better to hinder our Neighbours from carrying any Goods there; neither is it possible, while the *French* have our Wool to do it, which is so low already, the Labourers can't subsist; besides, it's notorious, the higher Labour is, our Country gets the more by it, and greater Riches is brought into the Country. *In his Register he values Labour at 60 l. per Pack.*

Mr. LONDON next calls for Inspection; he says Mr. WEBBER put Labour at 3 s. 4 d. *per Pound* manufacturing, because he would not be thought to value the Price too high, and thereby offend, tho' joins in Opinion with him, it ought to be 5 s. *per Pound*; *but I don't find Mr. WEBBER hath made any Estimation of the Value of Labour in manufacturing a Pack of Wool, but in his Register, and there he says he hath made the Fine 5 s. per Pound, it being worth thereabouts manufacturing.*

Further, That the Woollen Manufactory in England is of more Consequence than the Linnens, and all the other Manufactures, it employing more Hands than all put together. *As indeed they must if the following Calculation was true, but he talks of the Advantages of our Manufactures too far to follow him, so I'll proceed to his Calculation.*

He

He saith its computed
 1000,000 Packs of Wool
 grows annually here, which
 sold, as when confined to
 our own Manufactures at
 16 *l.* per Pack, is

Labour and Profit in
 working at such Times at
 40 *l.* per Pack.

56,000,000

As now sold ———— 4,000,000
 Labour and Profit of 500,000
 Packs, at the present Price — 10,000,000

14,000,000

Therefore is to our Disadvantage 42,000,000 *l.* by
 which it appears the Nation loses no less than
 42000,000 *l.* *Sterling* yearly, besides what the land-
 ed Interest suffers by Poor's Rates, made to support
 them, which in Time will become so numerous,
 that the whole Revenue of all the Lands will not
 support them. On the other hand, *France*, by get-
 ting 500,000 Packs of our Wool, can work up a
 Million and a half of their own.

Then the Labour only at 35 *l.* per Pack, will
 amount to 525,00,000 *l.* as he hath put it, *but*
truly cast up, should have been 70,000,000 l. *Sterling*
annually.

He also gives a Calculation, wherein he makes
 it appear, that there is annually 1274000 Packs of
 Wool growing in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. He
 says, that by the Toll Books it appears there are
 36000 Sheep and Lambs brought into *Smithfield*
 Market weekly, and so many slaughtered, one
 Week

Week with another throughout the Year. Then as the Country hath seven times as many People as some say, but he puts them at no more than six, and they living a soberer Life than the People in Town, must be supposed to eat more plentiful than they do here; however, he will allow they eat in proportion, which makes 210,000 killed weekly, which multiplied by 52, then by 4, which is what the Farmers compute to be a proper Proportion betwixt the Breeding Stock and Stock for Slaughter, viz. they will have the Lambs they keep unslaughtered at next Shear-time to make up the slaughtered Stock, tho' $\frac{1}{4}$ of last Year's grown Stock be killed; which Stock multiply by 4, because he estimates each Fleece to weigh 4 lb. the Product for each Year divided by 240, the Pounds for one Pack will be, for *Eng-*

<i>land</i> only — — — — —	} 728000 Packs.
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As *Scotland* is of less Extent than *England* for Tillage, and less fertile, it will be sufficient to allow $\frac{1}{4}$. — — — — —

} 182000

Ireland being not one fourth less than *England*, but is full as fertile, and taken up chiefly with Feeding, it hath been judged by some, who have taken great Pains throughly to inform themselves that it has near as many Sheep as in *England*; but suppose we only say half the Quantity.

} 364000

1274000 Packs.

Then says 250,000 Packs is sufficient to cloath
14000,000 People, so concludes the remaining
750,000

750,000 Packs will bring in manufactured at home, and sent abroad where People cannot subsist without them, 42000,000 *l.* clear Profit to the Nation. Farther yet, the Rigour of the last Winter Season, and the Decay of Trade, must have encreased the 1400,000 upon the Parish Books to 2000,000 in *England*; which considering how every Thing is taxed, the necessary Expences of the Government to be supported, how Fleets and Armies can be maintained; all the Land in the three Kingdoms will not do it; nothing but Trade, nothing but the Woollen Trade, and that by Registry and Charter.

As to the DRAPER he hath advanced nothing of his own; he hath been only a sort of Eccho to Mr. WEBBER and Mr. LONDON, and furnished many Insinuations against the Government, and seems rather one who hath been used to write for Pay, and it's more than an even Bett; The DRAPER Confuted is his own; so I shall only give some of his Absurdities, and collect some of his Rhetorical Scandal.

Farther, my Lords, I am to make good my Charge upon Mr. WEBBER and his Associates, and here I am at a Loss to paint them in their proper Colours: Had the DRAPER understood what he treated upon, and could have wrote honestly, he might with greater Justice and Reputation have moved the Passions of his Readers, and instilled proper Resentments in them to those Pretenders his Associates, rather than have taken their false Assertions, deceitful Calculations and Exaggerations by the Lump, together with their vile Insinuations against the Government, and put them into such a Dress as hath struck Terror into many of his Majesty's Subjects, and put Arguments into the Mouths of the Enemies of our Country, that tend to stir up Rebellion, rather than promote any Good to us; to which if any Opposition is given by way of

D

Alleviation,

Alleviation, the Reply is, Damn them, why don't they answer ; which was one Motive to this Essay.

Therefore I shall first premise, that whoever addresses himself to the Crown, thro' the Administration, (which is undoubtedly the properest Method) whether it be for his own or the Publick Benefit (which is generally the Pretence) ought to approach the Throne with the utmost Humility ; and tho' he may dignify and embellish his Stile fit for the Audience of the Royal Ear, and move his Majesty to order his Petition to be consider'd, yet he ought not to deviate from Truth in any Circumstance, even to a private Man, by Exaggerations or otherwise, much less to his most sacred Majesty ; neither should he stifle any Circumstance he is assured will be for his King and Country's Advantage upon any Consideration whatever.

I shall begin with Mr. Webber and his Associates Behaviour to the King, and shall make some small Animadversions upon them, and leave it to the Opinion of your Lordships and the Publick, whether my Charge is justly founded, or not, but find myself under a Necessity to repeat more of their Proceedings, which I shall observe as I go on.

The DRAPER says that his Scheme when offered to his Majesty, was recommended by the Hands of above 600,000 woollen Traders. Had this Recommendation been delivered by any Man, but the Honest, the Just, and Religious Mr. WEBBER, I should have thought it Fictitious, and made under a Hedge as sham Briefs are, by which they may cheat the Country : But the Justices of the Peace correct them when caught by a good Whipping, or bring them to Quarter Sessions, and make them mount the Rostrum. Therefore should his be such, how ought he to be treated to impose it upon the Crown.

For my part, I can make no more in my highest Calculation than 933966 Hands, Men, Women and Children,

Children, that are properly employed in the woollen Manufactures of Great Britain and Ireland, tho' I allow near $\frac{2}{3}$ ds more hands than the Golden Fleece; and the Women and Children are about 8 to 1. Therefore where he pick'd up more than 600,000 woollen Traders, is a Mystery, for I never heard of one Irishman that would sign it. So the number must be got in Great Britain; and if his Traders are the heads of Families, allowing 5 to a House, he was recommended by the Representatives of 3000,000 of Souls, which is full, if not more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of this Island; yet those who were conversant with Traders never heard any thing of it, 'till he thought fit to publish it: Neither have they met with, or heard of any one Trader that signed his said Recommendation. It must left to the Government to look into it if thought proper.

I shall farther proceed to him and his Colleagues Behaviour to the King, his Ministers, the Legislature, and the Publick: And first,

In his Letter, page 4, WEBBER saith, that at the Peace of Ryfwick, Wool sold from 12 to 14 and 16 l. per Pack. That the Dutch and other Merchants came to Bristol Fair, bought 150,000 l. worth of Woollen Goods in 8 days; and from that Time makes his Comparison betwixt the Woollen Trade then, and now, and saith that Wool which then sold from 14 to 16 l. per Pack, is now sold from 4 to 5 l. but such as is made fit for Manufacture may fetch 6 l. ' This gives me some Reason to believe Mr. WEBBER had not his Education in England, but takes this Story on Trust, or by hearsay, being mistaken in point of Time, not but there is Truth in the Story, with regard to combing Wool, and if he knew it he is very fallacious in suppressing the Reason Wool and Woollen Goods bore so ex-

‘ orbitant a Price as he mentions ; the Year as I
 ‘ remember was 1695, when Queen *Mary* dyed,
 ‘ or 1696 at farthest, when Guineas passed Cur-
 ‘ rent at 30 s. and Foreign Gold in Proportion.
 ‘ This occasioned Foreigners to hurry over their
 ‘ Gold, and invest it in the woollen Manufactures
 ‘ of *Great Britain*, by which they suffered much,
 ‘ for Pasture Wool, which sold at that Time at a
 ‘ Guinea per Tod or 9 l. per Pack, jump’t up to
 ‘ 40 s. per Todd or, 16 l. to 16 l. 10 s. per Pack,
 ‘ and woollen Goods in Proportion, to the loss of
 ‘ Foreigners 50 per Cent. or thereabouts : Which I
 ‘ demonstrate thus, 100 Guineas which passed before
 ‘ that Time for 22 s. amounted to 110 l. which
 ‘ when laid out in Goods, bought 150 l. worth of
 ‘ woollen Goods at the advanced Price. One hundred
 ‘ Tod of Wool which cost 105 l. was sold for 200 l.
 ‘ But such a Thing never happened before or since
 ‘ in Trade, therefore ought not to be brought as
 ‘ a President ; for Wool rose in greater Propor-
 ‘ tion to the rise of Gold, and in the same Propor-
 ‘ tion fell, and was lower within the Year than it
 ‘ was before, and never rose to 12 l. per Pack since
 ‘ in the Fleece (some small quantities growing in
 ‘ *Lincolnshire*, and some part of *Leicestershire* ex-
 ‘ cepted.) He can’t find any such Price given for
 ‘ *Romney Marsh Wool*.*

‘ Mr. LONDON who is a great Calculator, tho’
 ‘ he hath made some odd Omissions and Blunders
 ‘ (as they have all done.) In his first Calculation
 ‘ he gives *Britain* the Manufacture of 500,000

* N. B. The Wool we are treating of, is, what is said to be
 Run or Smugled, for we grow cloathing Wool, now worth more
 than 20 l. per Pack, but that’s not said to be Run. Indeed neither
 French nor Dutch want it, for they have Spanish Wool will come
 within that Price, and some at $\frac{1}{3}$ of that Price.

- Packs of Wool at 20 *l.* per Pack, which I wish
- was true,

	<i>l.</i>	
By which Labour alone amounts to	10,000,000	
To the Nation for Wool manufactured	}	2,000,000
at home.		
Wool Manufactured at home, and	}	12,000,000
Labour.		

Sent Abroad Wool to the amount of 2000,000 *l.* at his scandalous Price.

But I believe 12,000,000 is much more than all our woollen Manufactures amount to, or ever did, for any Year, except the Year aforesaid.

• He says the 500,000 Packs sent abroad, will
 • work up 1500,000 Packs of theirs, but hath the
 • Modesty to mix no more than 1000,000, for which
 • he allows the French 35 *l.* per Pack for Labour,
 • and gives France 175 *l.* for what he gives us but
 • 100 *l.* yet makes them undersell us, which can't be
 • tho' they mix bad Wool with our good Wool;
 • yet two Pages before gives Reasons why the
 • French underwork us, viz. their wearing neither
 • Shoes or Stockings, unless wooden Shoes; some
 • who work hard stuffed with Hay, and hardly
 • any Thing but Rags on their Backs, and living
 • on a few Herbs pick'd in the Fields, to make
 • Soup, Meagre, and eat Snails and Frogs, to be
 • found in every Ditch and Hedge, and eats dry
 • Bread and Salt, and drinks nothing but Wa-
 • ter, or Water mix'd with a little Cyder.

• Again, where he makes his Cal-	Packs.
• culation of our Growth to amount to	} 1274000
• He omits Lamb and Felt Wool,	
• which at 10 <i>l.</i> per Cent. as I have	} 127400
• made it,	

Added together 1401400

• So slips over 401400 Packs as a Bagatell not
 • worth

‘ worth minding, tho’ more than we grow in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and as I humbly apprehend
 ‘ is more than groweth in *France*, notwithstanding
 ‘ he gives them 1500,000 Packs to mix with
 ‘ 500,000 of ours.

‘ I shall now make a Transition to the *DRAPER*
 ‘ who hath, as was before observed, copied all the
 ‘ Calculations aforesaid, wrote by *WEBBER* and
 ‘ *LONDON*, and gives them great Applause, and
 ‘ hath also copied all their scandalous Insinua-
 ‘ tions and Exaggerations given out to affront his
 ‘ Majesty, and abuse those in the Administration,
 ‘ terrify the Legislature, and alienate the Affection
 ‘ of the People from, if not to stir them up to a
 ‘ Rebellion against his most Sacred Majesty;
 ‘ some of which I shall give as follows.

Page 17. He tells us what Account *WEBBER* had from a Patriot Nobleman, viz. That we had in *England* and *Wales* only 1400,000 Poor on the parish Books, 300,000 of which were old or Children, the remaining 1100,000 were fit for Labour. Then with *LONDON*, saith, the Severity of the last Winter may fairly be supposed the number 2000,000.

‘ This is undoubtedly calculated and inserted
 ‘ with a view to terrify the Publick, and make
 ‘ them press the Legislature to grant what they
 ‘ want, tho’ its improbable they should be caught
 ‘ in such a Cobweb Trap, for they know that
 ‘ 2000,000 is more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of *England* and *Wales*,
 ‘ which contains about 9000 Parishes, and we can-
 ‘ not allow more if so many as a Million of Houses
 ‘ that pay Scot, &c. so that each Parish on an
 ‘ Avaridge must maintain 200, or two Persons to
 ‘ be supported by each House.

Page 18. He saith (after comparing the Strength of *France* and *Great Britain* by Land) that our Se-
 curity

curity consists in our naval Strength, but Experience hath shewn us that the Winds render it useless: However, for fear the Elements should be of our side, we are taking the wisest Measures for weakning our own Fleet, and strengthening that of *France*, we are giving up our Trade and Commerce, which are the proper Nurseries for it; and the *French*, by our Folly, are daily encreasing both their Trade and their Riches so very fast, that they will soon be able to build, or buy and maintain as large a Fleet as they please; and all who know any thing of *France* know they are building or buying Men of War as fast as possible, having built nineteen and bought others.

In the same Page Mr. *Webber* hath assured me that an Officer belonging to the Customs hath owned to him more than once, and with great Concern, that he was obliged to go on Board and see Wool Shipp'd, which he knew to be bound for *France*. How and why *Josias Thompson* was rendered incapable of serving his Majesty, and afterwards run through the Body in *German Street*, the same Person informed me and is ready to prove. And I have been also informed, that a certain Lord, the Son of a certain great Man, with other Noblemen, gave an Order for 50 Suits of Cloaths at one Time from *France*.

Page 19. *Wales* and *Scotland* I know less of, but neither of them I doubt are so well satisfied as could be wished with their Condition, therefore less averse than otherwise they would be to a change of Government. In *Ireland* there are 3 or 4 Papists to one Protestant (not divided as formerly, and headed by the Chiefs of different Parties, fighting one against the other) but are united by being reduced, and all in such a State as they will think any Change desirable, and tho' unarmed *France*
and

and *Spain* have 15000 of their Countrymen in Pay, who may both carry them Arms, and teach them to use them; and the miserable Condition of that Nation, occasioned by our Oppression. This may make it easy for *France* to gain them over to her Interest.

Page 22. He saith again, tho' Mr. *Webber's* Scheme which was recommended as aforesaid by above 600,000, Woollen Traders, and a Patent was ordered to be formed, and that Mr. *Webber* should name the Patentees; now his Majesty will not consent to it, they mean--- will not consent to it, for his Majesty hath, and given Orders for a Charter to Mr. *Webber* and Co. which is now upon Record in the proper Office, and the Privy Counsel consented to it when they advised his Majesty to grant it. The same Persons say, and look Grave when they say it, that Mr. *Webber* can't be admitted to speak to his Majesty, but he must convey what he hath to say through their Interposition: And that a Man need not be a Conjuror, to understand their Design.

Page 29. It can be proved a certain Person made no scruple many Years ago to declare a *French* Government to be the best. That the Nation ought to be kept Poor, in order to be kept Humble; and that he would act agreeable to his Opinion; and his subsequent Conduct hath too strongly proved the Sincerity of his Declarations.

Page 30. He laments the great Misfortune that Trade is so little understood, and so much despised by Gentlemen of Estates, because they cannot be disposed to make Laws for encouragement of what they neither value or understand, tho' Trade is so much the support of their Estates, that they would be worth nothing without it, but begs God would inspire such of the Nobility who have access to the Throne with it, and instill them into his Majesty,

whose

whose readiness to encourage Trade appeared from his Grant to Mr. *Webber*, &c. But if it were possible to suppose he could imbibe the wicked and weak Position advanced by one of his Subjects, both the King and the whole Nation must be sacrificed by it.

Postscript 34. He says if it were possible to suppose (what I never can or will suppose of his Intentions, however plain I may think the tendency of his Measures) that a Prime Minister could mean to give up the Nation and his Master to Foreigners. He could never make it the Interest of our Representatives to do it, any more than he could prevail upon them to sacrifice the Publick to their private Advantage. No doubt *French* Money would not be wanting on such an Occasion, if any of our honourable Members would accept of it. But, can any Bribe make it worth a wise Man's while to ruin his Estate, and make himself a Slave after so long tasting the Sweets of Liberty and Plenty? I dare answer for it a little Time will open such a Scene of Poverty and Distress, that whoever of our Representatives should venture to oppose an Act to prevent the Exportation of our Wool, or should not shew himself forward to procure one, such Conduct would render him more odious to his Constituents than even the Excise Scheme, and put it out of the Power of Bribery (Prevalent as it is) to purchase a Seat in another Parliament.

LONDON's Answer is much of a Piece with it, and as much aggravated; for he saith, Wool may be smuggled as well from publick Ware-houses belonging to the Crown, as private ones, (if the Clerks who manage it may be turn'd out for doing their Duty.) As to his Calculations of our Loss, and the Gain of *France*, Mr. *Webber's*, as well as his, are thought to be carry'd too high; and when

those Objectors shall think fit to prove, as well as object, they shall be fully answer'd. He never heard of Mr. LONDON's Sanity being call'd in question. The Objectors own the Loss to be enough to ruin us, tho' not so large as Mr. LONDON makes it, and saith, *Pray where is the Difference, whether we are ruined by 10 or 40,000,000 l. Loss*; then carries his Readers to Sir *Walter Raleigh's* Calculations, which I confess I think high enough, tho' he computes the Loss for 55 Years not to amount to what they make lost in one, and that's become obsolete, the Evil complain'd of being remedy'd long since. LONDON makes our annual Loss amount to 42,000,000 *l.* then proceeds to an Estimation made by a very judicious Author in 1706, as under, for 2 lb. of Wool.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
For Combing, Oil, and Soap, for } 2 lb. and less of Wool ————— }	0	3	0
Which will produce 20 Oz. the Spin- } ing of which will cost ————— }	0	6	0
Doubling and Throwing —————	0	1	3
The Worsted thus made, will make } five Pair of Stockings, the knitting } of them at Twelve-pence <i>per</i> Pair, } are ————— }	0	5	0
Dying into Scarlet —————	0	6	0
Trimming and Pressing —————	0	1	0
The Nogles combed out, at 12 Oz. } fit for mill'd Hose ————— }	0	0	6
Carding and Spinning that into Yarn	0	0	9
Doubling and Throwing —————	0	0	2
Knitting into a Pair of Hose —————	0	0	10
Milling and Shearing —————	0	1	0
Dying them into Crimson and Scarlet	0	1	6
	1	7	0

‘ The

‘ The third Paragraph, quoted as before, in Pages
 ‘ 18 and 19, I think need no Explanation ; the
 ‘ Design of the Author, under Pretence to support
 ‘ a Trade, (which will be shewn) he knows nothing
 ‘ of, and only layeth hold of to raise Discontent
 ‘ in the People against the Government, and points
 ‘ out Methods for a Foreign Power how to raise
 ‘ a Rebellion amongst his Majesty’s Subjects, who
 ‘ by proper Assistance given, may easily be made
 ‘ subservient to the Interest, if we don’t become
 ‘ Vassals to the said Power.

‘ And as to the Patent not going forward, that
 ‘ will have an Answer hereafter, where it may be
 ‘ shewn it ought not to pass ; (if not) that the Pe-
 ‘ titioner should not dare ask for what must appear
 ‘ to thinking Men to be unreasonable and unjust.

Page 30. ‘ I could wish with him, who must
 ‘ have been detected long since, had the Gentle-
 ‘ men of Estates had the Knowledge of Trade and
 ‘ Manufacture he pretends to, and is ignorant of,
 ‘ that they would take Trade into their Considera-
 ‘ tion, and blend them with their Studies ; a small
 ‘ Time, perhaps 1 or 2 Hours weekly would effect
 ‘ it, and make them Masters, more especially, of the
 ‘ Woollen and Silk Manufacturies of *Great Britain*
 ‘ (speculatively at least ;) which if they travel their
 ‘ own Country, and make Observations and En-
 ‘ quiries into the various Speculations they have ac-
 ‘ quired, they will be enabled to make such Re-
 ‘ marks in their foreign Travels, upon their Ma-
 ‘ nufactures, as may be useful to our Country on
 ‘ their Return home ; which, if Trade and Ma-
 ‘ nufacture, as is generally esteem’d the Source of
 ‘ Wealth, as I hope may be encouraged ; and who-
 ‘ ever doth so, surely can’t be less valued, but must
 ‘ receive more Applause than he that brings home
 ‘ a Piece of old Copper, pretended to be found in

‘ the Ruins of antient *Rome*, or old Paintings,
 ‘ in which they are frequently cheated, tho’ I would
 ‘ not depreciate the latter Virtuosi ;— yet think it
 ‘ more eligible to bring here what may improve
 ‘ Wealth amongst us, which will enable us to gra-
 ‘ tify our Taste in every other Study.

Page 34. ‘ He behaves, as I’ve seen and heard
 ‘ two Market-women, since the Law to prevent
 ‘ vexatious Suits, that have been brought into Do-
 ‘ *ctors Commons* for Misbehaviour, and giving each
 ‘ other Language *contra bonos mores*, they stood
 ‘ and abused each other negatively in the following
 ‘ Manner: *I did not, Housewife, say you was a*
 ‘ *Whore* ; *did I?* Or, *that you pick’d such a one’s*
 ‘ *Pocket when you was catched in Bed with him* ; *did*
 ‘ *I?* ‘ So our Draper will not believe our Prime
 ‘ Minister would give up his Master or his Coun-
 ‘ try, however his Measures may tend that Way ;
 ‘ Or, that the Parliament would come into it, tho’
 ‘ French Money would not be wanting ; then bul-
 ‘ lies the Parliament to come into *Webber’s*
 ‘ Scheme, and tells them, *Should they not, they*
 ‘ *would render themselves so odious to their Constituents,*
 ‘ *that Bribery, prevalent as it is, would never be able*
 ‘ *to purchase another Seat in Parliament.* ‘ So
 ‘ this Libeller and Fomenter of Sedition, if not
 ‘ Rebellion, abuses Ministry and Parliament, as
 ‘ he apprehends, under Cover.

‘ Another Thing relating to the Draper, who
 ‘ hath in a very strong Manner recommended his
 ‘ Book, and lards his Treatise with Prayers to the
 ‘ Almighty, being almost in every Page, (tho’ he
 ‘ hath spirited the People to a Rebellion) that he
 ‘ would, by his Providence, prevent it ; and I am
 ‘ told by a Namesake of his, that he is a dignify’d
 ‘ Man in the Church, yet I think doth not pay his
 ‘ Fellow-Labourers in a lower Capacity, as the
 ‘ Golden

‘ Golden Fleece doth in his Woollen Ways;
 ‘ That he hath 500 *l. per Ann.* spiritual Prefer-
 ‘ ment, besides what he may make by terrifying
 ‘ his Parishioners to an abject Submission to his Di-
 ‘ ctates, which I hope are better founded than his
 ‘ Mysteries in Trade, wherein he is not learned
 ‘ beyond his Battledor.

As to Mr. LONDON he says, If Clerks may be
 ‘ discharged for doing their Duty, &c. which I think
 ‘ less liable than by their Scheme, which I shall
 ‘ endeavour to prove as well as object in what will
 ‘ hereafter follow; therefore all his Exaggerations
 ‘ are scandalous, and his endeavours to palliate
 ‘ them; tho’ I agree with him if the Nation is to
 ‘ be ruined by the Loss of either a greater or smal-
 ‘ ler Sum, we ought to prevent it, and have a na-
 ‘ tional Right so to do, without giving any Um-
 ‘ brage to any Power; yet that justifies not the
 ‘ scandalous Exaggerations aforesaid. As to Mr.
 ‘ Webber, if any Thing I have suggested is true,
 ‘ ’tis happy for him he is esteemed Insane, o-
 ‘ therwise the Penalties he may suffer, may be too
 ‘ heavy for him to bear.

‘ The grand Complaint of our Authors before-
 ‘ mentioned is the want of a Patent and Charter to
 ‘ be granted by Act of Parliament, with such Pow-
 ‘ ers as are necessary to Mr. Webber and Comp.
 ‘ their Heirs and Assigns, who must be all nomi-
 ‘ nated by Mr. Webber, to the Number of 122, to
 ‘ make By-Laws and do every thing (as I suppose)
 ‘ they shall think proper, and I doubt not by the
 ‘ Help of the Dr. they may be able to prove a Mo-
 ‘ nopoly, no Monopoly, and explain away all
 ‘ common Sense and Honesty, who had he known
 ‘ Webber sooner, and been thoroughly instructed in
 ‘ his Secret (still in Webber’s own Breast for any
 ‘ thing that yet appears) he would have haran-
 gued

' gued in a different manner, and not spent so much
 ' Time to shew the Breach of Promise the Ministry
 ' have made his Majesty guilty of to Mr. *Webber*,
 ' for he must know they ought not to suffer any
 ' Grant to pass which is prejudicial to the good of
 ' their Country, as also that our Laws calls the
 ' Lord Chancellor in these Cases, the Keeper of
 ' the King's Conscience, and the Chancellor of the
 ' Exchequer (as the Patriots say) is now Keeper
 ' of his, and the Consciences of all the Ministry.
 ' Therefore he should have rather applied to the
 ' great Man, and have given some Reasons as he
 ' could have liked, which the Dr. saith is not ve-
 ' ry difficult to guess at ; and I think it might have
 ' been worth their while, for I could shew how a
 ' great many Millions might have been got by
 ' their Scheme : Therefore I should think the Dr.
 ' might have as easily seduced a Premier, who is
 ' under no Ties (as they say) but his Interest as a
 ' Clergyman, can offer, or a Bishop enter into any
 ' Contract of Simony. But now it's I fear too late
 ' to make any Offer, for should our Minister come
 ' into it, and commit the Management to so great
 ' Blunderers as *Webber* and his Associates, he then
 ' with Justice might be deemed so.

' But I'll acquaint Mr. *Webber*, there was one
 ' Mr. *Wood* had the Royal Promise of a Patent to
 ' make Iron with Pit Coal as tough and maluable,
 ' which could be done for 6*l.* 10*s.* per Ton, as
 ' *Swedes* Iron, which costs 18*l.* per Ton, but ne-
 ' ver got it passed, tho' he wanted that only, and
 ' no Act of Parliament, neither indeed was his
 ' Project so large, being only productive of 4 or
 ' 500,000*l.* per Annum, and that but for 14
 ' Years, at the End of which the publick was to
 ' have it. Yet this stubborn Minister would not
 ' interpose to compleat it (tho' great Profits might
 ' have

' have accrued by it had he come into the Fraud)
 ' and a Person he always favoured was involved in
 ' it, and ruined by a stop being put to it; yet
 ' was so sure of their Project, as to erect a House,
 ' Furnaces, and Forges at *Chelsea*, to shew a Spe-
 ' cimen, which not answering the End, they were
 ' disappointed, and several of their Friends were un-
 ' done, yet no complaint was made against the
 ' Crown or Administration, for preventing the
 ' Patent passing.

' I could wish Mr. *Webber* would bring his
 ' Affair to a Tryal, and then it will be seen how
 ' he can Manufacture 3 Packs of bad Wool with
 ' one of good, to advantage, and also how he
 ' will prove how 20 *Os.* of Wool to cost 3 *s.* Comb-
 ' ing, which may be done in his Country for Three
 ' Pence, and in *England* for Four Pence; and how
 ' he happens to Dye his Woollen Hose, which he
 ' makes near three times the Weight of his Worsted,
 ' and more susceptible of receiving a larger quanti-
 ' ty of Colour than Worsted, being of a spongy
 ' Quality, near the same Price as the Worsted.

It is now Time for me, my Lords, to shew where-
 in I differ from these Authors before-mentioned,
 which I'll do as follows: First, I will give a Cal-
 culation of my own, which indeed I make in a
 quite different manner from Mr. *London*. But I have
 taken pains in my Enquiry, and find I must be
 near Truth, if any thing I exceed it, as I shall I
 hope convince the World, and make the Publick
 something easier, with regard to the dreadful Ap-
 prehensions they at present may have. You find, my
 Lords in some of the Calculations of the Golden
 Fleece, an account for 5 Years *Communibus Annis*,
 the Amount of Duty raised by Excise, on Candles,
 Soap, Starch, and Leather, painted Silks, &c. I
 find the Duty on Candles to be 143859 *l.* that on
 Soap,

Soap, exclusive of Leather, Starch, and painted Silks to amount to 200,000 *l*.

The Author of the Golden Fleece has made his Computation of the quantity of Wool (grown) much too large, for that may be discovered by the Tallow each Sheep produces, for the Weight of a Fleece is known by the size of the Sheep, and Sheep of the same size produce as near the same quantity of Tallow, each in proportion as they did of Wool. That we reckon the Marketable Sheep, the fourth part of the Sheep that was at Shear Time, and they were slaughtered before the next Shear Time. I therefore first proceed to find the number of Pounds there is in the quantity of Soap, paying 200,000 Duty, each Pound paying 1 *d*. $\frac{1}{2}$, viz. 160 lb. being 20 *s*. I therefore multiply 200,000 by 160, and the Product will be 32,000,000; but Soap being of two kinds, hard and soft, the proportion of Tallow is different the one from the other that is used in each sort, and the quantities vary much, viz. there is three times the quantity of soft Soap there is of hard: But hard hath in manufacturing of it $\frac{3}{4}$ Tallow, therefore consumeth most Tallow.

The $\frac{1}{4}$ of 32,000,000, is 8000,000, $\frac{3}{4}$ of which being Tallow, is 6000,000. Soft Soap therefore being $\frac{3}{4}$ of 32000,000, is 24000,000; but $\frac{1}{3}$ of that is only Tallow, viz. 4800,000. Candles being but 1 *d* a Pound Duty, and paying annually 143859 *l*. I multiply by 240 *l*. which amounts to 34526160.

Left I should err in my Computation betwixt the quantity of soft and hard Soap, taking my Calculation from the Manufacturers of soft Soap, who say there are 26 Houses in that way in Town, which on an Average make each near 70 Barrels per Week, in all 24000,000. I have added 1200,000 *l*. which

which makes the Tallow in Soap of both kinds
12000,000.

For Frauds in the Excise and for Tallow used in
Business, that pays no Duty, such as Tallowing Ships,
Keels, Boat bottoms, &c. 100 Tonn Weekly.

After which I deduct for Foreign Tallow $\frac{1}{10}$,
then add for waste in melting $\frac{1}{8}$ to the Remain-
der, and from thence deduct $\frac{1}{10}$ for Kitchen Stuff,
&c. And I make a farther Deduction; for Beef,
Veal, and Pork Tallow, one Moiety, the remain-
der being Mutton Tallow, I make a farther de-
duction of $\frac{8}{17}$ Sheep on an Average fit to slaugh-
ter, producing so much Tallow more than Wool,
which multiplied by 4 the breeding Stock, is the
total of the Year's Produce, except Felt and Lamb
Wool, for which I add $\frac{1}{10}$ or 10 per Cent. Then
divide the Total by 240, the Pounds in a Pack,
which gives the number of Packs computed to grow
annually in *Great Britain and Wales*, as follows.

Tal. in Cand. Pds.	34526160	Deduct for Stuff $\frac{1}{10}$	6108286
Dit. in soft Soap	4800000		
Dit. in cake Soap.	6000000		5497458z
Added to make good any Error	1200000	The half for Beef, Pork, and Veal	2748729t
Dit. for Frauds in Duty, and Tal- lowing Ships, Keels, Boat bot- toms, &c. 100 Tonn Weekly.	11648000	Tallow	
		Deduct for a sur- plus of Tallow, Sheep on an Ave- rage Produce more than Wool	1293519z
	58174160	$\frac{8}{17}$ will be about	
Deduct for Foreign Tallow $\frac{1}{10}$	5817416		
		Multiplied by	14552099 4
Add for Waste in Melting $\frac{1}{8}$	52356744 8726124	Add for Lamb and Felt Wool $\frac{1}{10}$	58208396 5820839
	61082868		
		Divide by 240	64029235 is 266-88

Packs of Wool growing in *Great Britain and Wales*,
annually. F If

If deduct the Moiety for Tallow exceeding Wool, as in my former Calculation, designed to be laid before the House, which I am apprehensive is nearest Truth, the Number of Packs will be 251966.

The Time this Calculation was first made was from the Years 1734, 5, 6, 7, and 8; at which Times Tallow sold rough for 18 d. *per* Stone, except one Year 'twas lower, *viz.* at 16 d. when Sheep proved full of Fat, and answer'd to the Account I have given; for even this Year now Sheep don't produce more than $\frac{2}{3}$ they did of Fat in the Years above; 'tis reckon'd a Sheep of six Stone, or 12 lb. *per* Quarter produceth 6 lb. of Fat, besides the Kidney Fat, which may be a Pound, or 1 lb. and $\frac{1}{2}$, and that a Sheep of that Weight, full of Wool, at Shear-time, shall not produce a Fleece weighing more than 3 lb. To shew that my Account must be true, if any thing, I allow too much, and ought rather to have deducted $\frac{9}{17}$ than $\frac{8}{17}$, which would have made the Wool of *Great Britain* much lower than the above Accompt; therefore I give the following Account of the Produce and Price of Tallow; which Copy I took from a Tallow-Chandler, who had the Tallow of a Sheep Carcass-Butcher for many Years, and says he believes the said Slaughterman is particular as to his Number of Sheep, not deviating from the Quantity or Quality of the Goods, to the Number of 100 lb. *communibus annis.*

		<i>l. s. d.</i>	
In the Year	1738	13017	In 1738 the Price was 0 1 6
	1739	9229	1739 — ditto — 0 2 0
	1740	8820	1740 — ditto — 0 2 4
		<i>per Stone.</i>	

If I am wrong in any Part of my Calculation, it must be in the Soap Article, not having access to the Excise Books, to know the certain Quantities of hard and soft Soap. But I shall give a Calculation

lation after Mr. *London's* Manner, begging Leave to differ from him where I think I am right ; and must also lay down, before I begin, that it's impossible for him (was it true what he saith) to know the Slaughter by the Toll Books ; for there are a sort of Men called *Jobbers* in Cattle, who take the Advantage of a full Market, buy, and send them to Grounds they have in the Marshes in *Middlesex* and *Essex*, and other Lands they hire elsewhere, who correspond with the Inns, some or other of them, where the Drivers lodge, forty or fifty Miles distant from *London*, and according to Letters, they receive an Account of what Cattle are coming to Town, they meet and agree how the Market shall be fed the next *Monday*, and supply it accordingly. Your Carcass Butchers also, under Pretence of not killing their Cattle, whilst they are heated with Driving, send them to Lands they have, to let them cool and settle ; this may be a good Reason (tho' I call it a Pretence) but yet doubt not but they have Lands sufficient to lay in a Stock on a full Market, and sell it out on an advanced one ; and 'tis said, in order to crowd the Market, have brought Sheep of their own, and made sham Sales to lower the Market.

I doubt therefore Mr. *London* fibs, when he says by the Toll Books it appears there are 36000 Sheep and Lambs brought Weekly to that Market, for I had Business that call'd me every Market Day to *Smithfield* for two Years, and never saw any thing near it ; their biggest Markets are betwixt *Michaelmas* and *Christmas*, and during that Time they don't amount to the Quantity he speaks of, or any thing like it ; the *Friday's* Market, from some small time after *Christmas* to the Middle of *August*, perhaps shall not have 5000 Sheep in it ; neither shall *Monday's* have many more than 10,000, which is far

from the Quantity he talks of; let him count the Penns, and he will see they are made to hold twenty each, tho' some times they crowd in one or two more.

Again, if the Sheep are large, they may want one or two in the Penn; but I'll allow, on a very full Market on a *Monday*, (perhaps three or four such in a Year) there have been more than the common Penns would hold by 5 or 6000, which with 14000 the Penns hold that are common when wanted, will make 20,000.

Again, I must acquaint him, that most of the Butchers within ten Miles of *London*, come to provide themselves with Beef, Mutton, and Lamb, on the *Monday's* Market; so he must go farther than the Bills of Mortality to distribute the Provision of the Market.

I compute, therefore, that the Mouths fed with Mutton from *Smithfield* may be estimated 1,500,000; what Proportion Mr. *London* hath deducted, is 2000000 upon the Parish Books, I may venture to believe their Consumption equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Remainder, which makes our whole Number 9500000; and notwithstanding Mr. *London* asserts the Country living soberer than the Town, and consequently must eat more Flesh, I confess I know less of *Devonshire* than some other Countries, tho' I have been at *Exeter* some times, at *Taunton* often, and have travelled a great Part of *England*, and never saw such plentiful Living any where as at *London*, so may conclude *London*, with its Appendages before-mentioned, consumes $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Mutton that is kill'd in *Great-Britain*. However I'll admit to be slaughtered

for <i>London</i> , &c. Weekly	—	5	20,000
Which multiply'd by	—		52
		—	—
			1040000

Which

Brought over 1040000

Which being $\frac{1}{4}$ of the slaughtered Mutton for *England*, I multiply by ———— } 4

4160000

Multiply'd by 4, the Breeding 4

Stock amounts to ———— 16640000

Which I multiply 3 lb. 5, or }
 3 lb. 8 Oz. the Weight of a } 58240000
 Fleece, the Produce is ————

Add 10 per Cent. for Lamb and }
 Felt Wool ———— } 5824000

Divided by 240 ———— 64064000 is
 266933 Packs.

But multiply'd by $3\frac{1}{3}$, as I think nearer the Truth, the Number will be but 251680 Packs; but if I reduce the Weight of each Fleece to 3, which I believe is as much as can be allow'd, then the Quantity for *Great Britain* will be but 228800 Packs.

I could produce other demonstrative Reasons, that we do not grow more, if so much Wool as I have calculated in *Great Britain*; for I have been various Times at the greatest Fairs for Wool in these Dominions, more especially for the sort of Wool they write about, viz. *Bristol* and *Stirbitch*; at the last of which there was usually a Meeting of the most considerable Dealers in that Commodity from *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Hertfordshire*, *Cambridgeshire*, *Yorkshire*, *Lincolnshire*, *Northamptonshire*, some from *Warwickshire*, *Buckinghamshire*, *Bedford*, *Huntingdon*, and the Isle of *Ely*; some to buy large Combing Wool for making Worsted Yarn for the Stuff and Bay Trade, others to sell their small Wool for the *Yorkshire* Trade, and never heard the Quantity at any Fair to exceed 5000 Packs.

Indeed

Indeed I have heard, and believe, as much might be sold at that Meeting or Fair, to be delivered betwixt that Time and *Candlemas* ; therefore conclude we can't grow so much as I have allowed : But as I would now leave no room for Objection, I admit that *Northampton*, *Leicester*, and *Warwickshire* had also Manufacturies of their own, tho' not sufficient to consume all the Combing Wool they grow.

I am now, my Lords, to make my Computation for *Ireland* ; but I am at a Loss, if I compute after the Manner Mr. *London* hath done for *England*, viz. Compute the Quantity by the Number of living Souls in the Island, then it will be found *Ireland* hath not many more than two Millions of Souls ; that more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of that Number are *Roman* Catholics, and that 19 out of 20 of the Catholics are poor, and not in so good a Situation as our Negroes in the *West Indies*, and never, or very seldom eat any Flesh, except by Chance a little Pork or Bacon, which a few of them feed, but they live chiefly on Patatoes, Red Herrings, Skim Milk, &c. so that Country can hardly produce 400000 Mutton Eaters ; which if they stock their Lands as we do here, they can't have above $\frac{1}{10}$ of the Quantity of Wool we have, which will fall short, added to our's of 300,000 Packs *per Ann.* But I foresee it will be objected to, and that Lands are much cheaper-rented in *Ireland* than here, so they do not stock after our Manner, but keep a greater Quantity in Proportion for the Sake of the Wool only.

The same Reason may be assign'd for *France* and *Flanders*, which makes it improbable that their Growth of Wool should be any thing like the Quantity that is pretended to be mixed with *British* Wool.

In the Beginning of my Essay, I say there are other Reasons for the Decay of the Woollen Manufactory,

factory, than those assign'd, tho' I hope the Decay is nothing equal to the Imagination, for a small Stagnation in Trade makes the Price of any Goods fall in a Market, as a quick Demand makes them rise, without any real Occasion for either ; and tho' some Towns have sunk in Trade, others have advanced.

For I remember, in my Time, the Rise of some Towns, and the Fall of others in that Manufactory, viz. *Sudbury*, and I think, *Farnham*, were famous for making Shalloons, as was also *Newbury*.

Then *Kettering*, a little Market Town in *Northamptonshire*, from manufacturing 20 or 30 Pieces of Dy'd Serges Weekly, fell into making Shalloons, rivall'd the Towns above-mention'd, and sent to *London* Market upwards of 1000 Pieces *per Week*.

Yorkshire hath rivall'd them since, by underworking them, and very much decreased their Trade, as also lower'd their Prices ; they have also robb'd the West and East ; for I am told they not only make long Ells, but Bays, in Imitation of *Bocking* Bays, and sell them much cheaper for the Reasons afore-said ; and none can say they have not an equal Right to manufacture those Goods with *Bocking* or *Exeter*. I could mention various others in like Circumstances.

That there are other Reasons than those assign'd, I prove thus : We have not that Oeconomy in the Management of our Labourers, in the Manufactory they have abroad ; they endeavour to keep the Price of Labour low, Mr. *Munn* saith 30 *per Cent.* cheaper than any Part of *Britain* ; we on the contrary plead for our Labourers to be better paid, that they may live comfortably, and spend more Money, which it is alledg'd adds to the Revenue of the Nation, and this (I am afraid under a false Pretence, that Foreigners can't work without our Wool ; but more of
that

that under another Head.) Our Combers have for a Number of Years past erected themselves into a sort of Corporation (tho' without a Charter) their first Pretence was to take Care of their poor Brethren that should fall sick, or be out of Work; and this was done by meeting once or twice a Week, and each of them contributing 2 d. or 3 d. towards the Box, to make a Bank, and when they became a little formidable, they gave Laws to their Masters, as also to themselves, *viz.* that no Man should comb Wool under 2 s. *per* Dozen; that no Master should employ any Comber that was not of their Club, if he did, they agreed one and all not to work for him; and if he had employed twenty, they all of them turn'd out, and oftentimes was not satisfied with that, but would abuse the honest Man that would labour, and in a riotous manner beat him, break his Comb-pots, and destroy his Working Tools; they farther support one another, insomuch that they are become one Society throughout the Kingdom: And, that they may keep up their Price to encourage Idleness rather than Labour, if any one of their Club is out of Work, they give him a Ticket and Money to seek for Work at next Town where a Box Club is, where he is also subsisted, suffered to live a certain Time with them, and then used as before; by which Means he can travel the Kingdom round, be caress'd at each Lodge, and spend not one Farthing of his own, or strike one Stroke of Work. This Mr. *London* knows to be true, whether Mr. *Webber* doth, or not, I can't assert, because I cannot say whether this Practice is carried into *Ireland* or not.

This hath been imitated by the Weavers also, tho' not carry'd thro' the Kingdom, but confin'd to the Places where they Work; and I have known, so must Mr. *London* also, that the Weavers have risen
at

at *Taunton Dean*, and gave Laws to their Employers, destroyed Looms, and cut out their Work; where People were employed they did not care should, and would exact what Price they thought fit: *Bristol* and several other Places have underwent the same Fate.

The Manufacturers themselves don't a little contribute to their own Fate, not keeping up their Goods to a proper Standard as the Foreigners do. Mr. *Munn* asserts they make all their Goods to their full breadths and lengths throughout alike, which makes the Markets they apply to prefer them: Whereas ours, in a Time of quick demand, will some of them cap their Goods and make them worse within than they appear to be by the Outside, or Pattern produced, by which Means they lose their Credit abroad, as I remember has been done in various Commodities, which by that means have been totally lost. Therefore it is to be hoped that some care may be taken to have the Woollen Manufacturies kept up to a Standard.

Another Reason of the Decrease of the Worsted Manufactory, is the variation of Fashions, which from the Year 1690 to this Time, has made a considerable alteration in our home Consumption, and not less in our Colonies in *America*, who are govern'd in their Fashions by our Example; for tho' at the Time I mention two thirds of the Quantity that is now used would make a dress Suit for either Sex, yet the outside dress was then of the Woollen Manufactory, some few excepted. *Taunton* Serges were then much worn by Women: But in a short Time *Norwich* Toys took place for that Sex, and became their wear; after this the *French* Refugees introduced various Manufacturies, before but little known amongst us, made of Silk and Worsted, and Silk and Thread, and Worsted

G

Stuffs,

Stuffs, which being gay Colours, eclipsed the *Norwich* Manufactory, though they still excel in several Branches in the Worsted way.

Next came that fatal Stab to all the Worsted Manufacturies for Female wear, viz. the *East India* Calicoes, which were then brought in Printed, but by the Wisdom of the Nation, were in Time suppressed, yet admitted to be printed at home, and afterwards the Wear at home totally forbid, though suffered to be sent to our Foreign Plantations; but the Taste is so imbibed that Linnens and Cottons are now Printed, which Art being so much improved, that their Wear are extended beyond what the Calicoes were; and if I am truly informed, there is in the Suburbs of *London*, and within a few Miles more Hands employed in Printing than are in the Worsted Stuffs in that distance.

May Providence assist our Arms abroad in obtaining Possession of some Territories that may restore our Manufacturies at home relating to our native Produce, for nothing else can do it except the Preservation of our Wool to be Manufactured at home; or sumptuary Laws, the latter of which would be very ungrateful amongst us, we all desiring to appear different from what we are, and mimick the Quality, who would better their own Estates by an Example to their Dependants, and imitate the *French* in their OEconomy, preferable to their Follies, viz. to encourage the Manufacturies of our own Country, and wear them rather than any other, which 'tis said is practised by the King's of *France*, *Sweden*, and *Denmark*, and their Courts and Countries.

There is some sort of Stuffs that may 'its hoped be made, that will Wash and Print in the same Colours that Linnens and Cottons do, if encouragement was given to it by the Quality, that might become a Fashion, and give great Life to that
part

part of our Trade that employs most Hands, and may occasion a quicker demand for Wool of that sort, which consequently will encrease the Price.

There is a Letter in the Daily Advertiser, wrote the 16th of *February*, 1740, which seems to shew some uneasiness for the *East India* Company, lest their Settlement at *Gombron* in *Persia* should suffer, setting forth Priviledges the said Company hath in that Settlement, and how much they are in esteem, as being supposed to act for the whole Island of *Great Britain*. That the Goods sent there are paid for in Gold, which as it is employed in their Trade to *India*, prevents so much Money going from hence. Therefore hopes the Parliament will consider that, and not suffer them to be hurt in their Priviledges, in admitting any body to carry on a Trade by passing through *Russia* with Carravans to the Caspian Sea, lest it hurt their Interest in *Persia*, who are looked on by them as the representative Body of the whole *British* Nation, Priviledges, &c. were granted them as before-mentioned accordingly, tho' owns that Trade hath been discontinued ever since the Year 1720, occasion'd by Divisions in *Persia*, which now being at an end, the Company will open it again.

Mr. *Woolly*, Secretary to that Company, answers it the next Day, and after reciting the Letter or Memorial aforesaid, tells the Memorialist or the Publick, that the Company had ordered a Ship from their Settlements in *India* to carry what Goods they had there to *Gombron*.

Persia is of large Extent, and hath made large Conquests which are well filled with People who reside in such a Climate as may well wear our Manufacture. Therefore the Legislature will consider whether its proper to prevent any Merchant or

Merchants from carrying on a Trade so much wanted at present.*

That part of the South Sea Company's Charter (when they used to Trade) was laid open, which confined it to themselves only, to the great disadvantage of the Publick; therefore I can't see why private Merchants may not have the same Priviledges to Trade to *Persia* (tho' it should be granted in the *East India* Companies Charter) for the Reasons aforesaid.

That by opening the Trade to the South Sea, and the Cloathing of the Army Wool is 10 s. per Pack dearer than two Years since, and opening this Trade may advance 20 s. or 30 s. more in a short Time, unless the War betwixt *Russia* and *Sweden* prevents it.

I am no Enemy to that great and rich Body of Men that compose the Company aforesaid, yet I love my Country better, and tho' I would not clamour as some have done, neither dare I say things with Positiyeness on hear-say, but by the grant of a Charter to the united Company trading to the *East Indies*, they were confined to Ship a certain quantity of Woollen Goods annually, whether in Proportion to the Silver they Shipped, or a certain Value stipulated, I can't say; and if the Parliament should think proper they may order an enquiry into it, as also where those Goods were vended since 1720, that were bought for the Company's use, and prevent by a Law any Evasion of that Contract for the future, which will remove all Aspersions hereafter, that hath been formerly cast upon that Company, viz. That they eluded that Contract and sold those Goods in Europe, bought under

* This was wrote the last Year before the Act to open the Trade by the *Caspian* Sea passed.

der pretence of being sent to *India*, by which the *Turkey Company* and other Merchants, as also the whole Nation have been prejudiced, I won't say defrauded, neither that (there is Truth in these Suggestions) but I may venture to say, that if the Company hath taken their stipulated Quantity annually, and found vend. for them fairly (now that Trade is open that hath been shut for twenty Years past) it would be but just in them to double their Quantity at this Time, for they must know their Country wants it, and the Company's Trade meeting with the greatest Encouragement here, inasmuch that their Sales are prodigiously encreased; but I shall still go farther, and propose they may take 4 times the Goods of our Woollen Manufacture they contracted to Ship formerly, which would answer all the Purposes the Nation wants, tho' it should prove no greater Value than 400,000 *l.* annually, instead of 40,000,000 *l.* we are said to suffer, and I should humbly move the Government would give them an Equivalent for it, which would sufficiently answer the Companies Ends should they throw the Goods aforesaid into the Sea, and the Revenue will be increased one, if not 200,000 *l.* per Annum, viz. by a Prohibition of all Foreign Cambricks which pay but a small Duty, which of Course must be supplied by Muslins and Callicoes that pay a large one, at least three times what Cambricks pay in proportion to Value.

One Thing I have omitted taking notice of from the Memorialist, viz. That the Woollen Goods sold at *Gombroon* were paid for in Gold, which he says lessens the Companies demands of Cash from Europe to purchase the Effects they bring home; but in that I fear he is mistaken, for it's notorious that great Quantities of Gold are brought from the *East Indies* to Europe, and esteemed as profitable

a Traffick as any carried on, though purchased with Silver.

This leads me to think of our Trade by the *Caspian* Sea, which by the Act of Parliament is to be carried on by bartering our Woollen Manufactures for their Silk, which if it's true what hath been said, they should take care in their Bartering to have some Gold and some Silk, which undoubtedly the *Persians* will encourage rather than buy for Gold only, and by that Means the Woollen Manufactory may be much encreased: For otherwise its possible such quantity of the latter may be brought home as may prejudice the *Turkey* and *Italian* Trade; the first of which hath been esteemed the most valuable belonging to *England*. But I am told it can be no Prejudice to any Trade, it producing a quite different Silk than any other part of the World. I observe the Act that establishes the *Persian* Trade requireth the Oath of the Merchants trading there, that the Commodities brought home in return are purchased with *British* Manufactures. Oaths, my Lords, are very slippery Things, more especially such as are not Cognizable in the Courts of Judicature, and don't bind such People as are carrying on fraudulent Trade to the prejudice of their Country: Therefore it's hoped the Parliament will consider that Act, and add such Clauses to it as may fix them so firm that neither that or any other Company or Body of Men, or single Man who may be under Contract with the Government, shall be able to elude it to the Nation's Prejudice.

It's presumed it can be no Crime to say some of the Directors of the two trading Companies have been suspected of carrying on an illicit Trade, or conniving at such, in breach of the Oath taken as Directors, even so long since as the latter end of Queen *Ann's* Reign, viz. *A. M.* was discovered to be

be carrying on a Trade to the South Sea, and in one of the Companies Ships, and part of the Freight was Shipped in *France*, and a Minister of State at that Time justified the Action, and said that Ministry was not worth serving that would not admit such Jobs. Other Instances might be produced, therefore the Government ought to be better secured.

It's hoped if what's proposed can be obtained, *viz.* A good Law to restrain the pernicious Practices of our Combers, Weavers, &c. in the Woollen Manufactory, as also to oblige the Masters to make their Goods true, both as to the Lengths and Breadths, and throughout alike, which may be adjusted by a Seal affixed as was formerly usual at *Colchester* when they confined themselves to the Manufacture of four Sorts only, *viz.* Rents, Crowns, Colledges and Crosses, by which Names they were bought without any Inspection of the Purchasers, and rose and fell in Proportion to the Demand, so just were those who presided in sealing those Goods. The Medly or Dyed Goods must be inspected by the Buyers because of the Colours. They may when truly made and Sorts declared be bought by Pattern, by which those Manufactures will flourish, though our Demands should increase in the Woollen Manufactory but 400,000 *l.* per Ann. and would be sufficient to supply, in my opinion, all our Wants and Losses, tho' (as I think scandalously) asserted to be 42,000,000 *l.* annually believing our decay not equal to their Complaints as I have before hinted, it being well known that there is 10 per Cent. difference betwixt those two Monosyllables, will you buy and will you sell; if the last Question is asked by Merchants or Warehouse Men, &c. the Manufacturer will expect

expect 5 *per Cent.* at least advanced upon his present Price; on the contrary, if the first is ask'd by the Maker, Reprisals are made by the Purchaser, and so *vice versâ*.

As to Trade, which ought to be restrain'd, is such as is prejudicial to the Publick, tho' it may be profitable to private People; such I take to be all our Imports from *France*, which we can do very well without, *viz.* all the Cambricks, Brandies, Wines, &c. for which they take little from us but Specie, or something yet much more to our Disadvantage, *viz.* our Wool; by Virtue of which they have been able to rival us in that Manufacture abroad, and have prevented, as also prohibited, our manufactur'd Wool going there, some small Quantity excepted, that is sent to *Dunkirk*, which they call a Free Port; and the Method, I am told, used to dispose of it there into *French Flanders* or *France*, is to those who come to *Dunkirk* to buy them, where they are made into Cloaths, and wore home, leaving their old ones to be sent after them. I know Brandy and Wines bring in a great Revenue to the Crown; but that will be recompenced by the Encrease of Rum, and some small Duty added to our own Spirits at the Still Head, of which there is ten times the Quantity made, than there is *French* Brandy imported; and hardly any of that imported, but is mix'd with an equal Quantity of *British* Spirits.

The *Spanish* Trade was, and the *Portugal* is, the most advantageous to *Great Britain*, which pay to this Nation $\frac{3}{4}$ of what we Traffick with them for in Specie, chiefly, if not wholly for the Produce of our Lands, and the Manufactures of our own that proceeds from our Growth; therefore ought to be cultivated.

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The *American Trade*, both upon the Continent and the *West Indies*, is very profitable, and furnishes large Ballances in Bullion, as well as very useful Commodities ; our Nation can't well subsist without, as also some for foreign Export : And before the last Treaty of *Queen Anne*, the *West Indies* furnished Sugars, which drew Cash from *Holland*, *Sweden*, *Denmark*, and all *Germany*, and other Places, which our worthy Ally, *France*, hath robbed us of ; tho' it's said they can't subsist their Settlements without our Aid ; yet those profitable Trades to the Publick are carry'd on to the Ruin of great Numbers of Private Traders, and I am afraid can't well be prevented, or a Cure provided for it. I have, myself, sent Cargoes into *America*, by which I've doubled my Outset, clear of all Deductions, in twelve Months, which induced me to send others, and I continued to do so, till I lost double what I got the first Adventure, and was kept two or three Years out of my Effects, before any Returns came, either in Goods or Remittances ; and this is the Case of $\frac{2}{5}$ of those People trading to any or either of those Parts before specified, few or none thriving but such as are concerned and share in the Houses that are fixed at the Settlements aforesaid, and Captains of Ships and Super-Cargoes, and those that act in Commission for them here and abroad, yet the Trade is equally profitable to the Nation, for the Money lost by *A* is got by *B*, a Subject equally with *A* to *Great Britain*. That this Trade is profitable to the Publick, tho' it may fill our Gazette with a hundred Bankrupts yearly, I demonstrate thus, and humbly apprehend there is at least two thousand Persons, I might say more, including Manufacturers, constantly dealing in the Manner aforesaid, who shall export on an Average 500 *l.* each, they bring home in Return, Specie, or such Effects as are necessary to us, and must be purchased

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chased with Money ; this, if produced from our own Manufactures, is 1,000,000 *l.* clear Profit *per Ann.* except what is lost by Bankruptcy aforesaid, which may be $\frac{1}{10}$ th Part. If it should be objected, that such a Number of Men, Merchants, that have Houses abroad, and such as act by Commission at home, excluded, can't be found that ship such Quantities as amount to the Value, we may enlarge the Number, and not furnish more Bankrupts, because some leave off before that happens, tho' fresh ones come daily in : Yet I know a Gentleman that shipped 40,000 *l.* annually to *Portugal*, and had his Returns all in Gold, and held it for twenty Years ; yet 20,000 *l.* was not lost by him when he stopt ; so the Kingdom got by him only 780,000 *l.* There are Manufacturers that ship great Quantities of their own Fabrick to *Holland* and elsewhere, and draw immediately upon their Effects, to their no small Loss, and they chuse it rather than sell them at home, which ruins their Credit, and puts a Stop to their further Trading. This frequently happens with Merchants who have overshot themselves ; they are under a Necessity of Trading, till a full Stop is put to them, rather than stop in Time, which most Men are ashamed to do.

The *Dutch* and *German* Trades are reciprocal, *viz.* I believe they buy as much from us in our Manufactures, as we do of theirs, and tho' the Exchange is against us, and great Quantities of Gold is sent thro' us to *Holland*, it is not from a Balance due to them from us in Trade, but the Gold is a Profit to us, being freighted on *British* Ships from abroad for their Account, and pays also a Commission to the *British* Merchants that forward it, and the Exchange, tho' against us, is, because by *Amsterdam* what Money is wanted to any Part of *Europe* may be remitted from thence,

The

The *Turkey* and *Italian* Trades, tho' carry'd on Part with Money and Part with our Manufactures, yet have been, and are very useful and necessary to the Publick, the Commodities they bring unmanufactured, employing so great a Number of Hands, that their Labour, added to the Price of Silk, &c. imported, brings in more Money from abroad, than is expended in our Purchases of Silk, &c. insomuch that our home Consumption is all clear Gain to our Nation; therefore Methods it's hoped will be taken to propagate those Trades, more especially the *Turkey* Company, who bring in some Commodities not to be had elsewhere, as Rhubarb, Mohair, and their Silk Unthrown, which of Course employs more Hands to manufacture it; so it's necessary the *Persian* Traders should be strictly kept to their Contract, and some Methods taken to improve the *Turkey* Trade, so that it may become profitable to the Merchants, as well as useful to the Publick, which I think may be done, tho' it is broke in upon by the *French*, (if damning all foreign Manufactures of Wool will do it, which I shall shew may be done, when properly call'd upon, provided the Wool of the Southern Growth of *France*, and where they have a large Manufacture of Woollen Goods be such as that opposite to our Coast is said to be, which none of our Connoisseurs in Trade have pretended to prove, or that *British* or *Irish* Wool is mixed with it, as I remember; which might have been known by our Men of Quality in their Travels, had that been part of their Speculation.)

As to the *East-India* Trade, since it must be carry'd on by us, or given up to our Rivals, *France* and *Holland*, we ought to cultivate it, more especially if their Commodities are of such Demand abroad, as to bring more Money home than is expended in their Purchase in *India*. This I am inform'd was de-

monstrated by Mr. *Ecclestone* before the House of Lords ; and I hope bringing their Muffings into wear, as I've propos'd, will be no Disservice, but of great Use to them, and our Country also.

My Lords,

I am now going upon my last Calculation, by which I shall discover a Falacy, that all the aforesaid Authors have suppressed (if they knew what they wrote upon) with a Design to swell their Account and impose upon their Readers, *viz.* the Wool wasted in its Weight, by Washing, Combing, Carding, Scribbling, &c. they take no notice of, making their Computation for Labour on a Pack of Wool, which ought to have been on a Pack of Goods made from Wool, which is something more than $\frac{1}{4}$ Difference, for 4 Packs of Wool in the Fleece will not make 3 Packs of Woollen Goods, reckoning the whole of the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* on an Avaridge. But first I'll prove, as I've promised, what they all of them have asserted must be false, if *French* and *Dutch* Wool is such as is represented (as I am apt to believe is true) I mean that of their own Growth, for I have been in those Countries 30 odd Years since, as also at *Liege*, their Wool is as represented by Mr. *Munn*, some Course and Sticheled Haired, therefore will not mix to any Advantage with ours ; they should have said instead of our Wool working up three of theirs, that three of ours would work up one of Foreign, there indeed might be some pretence, but what they have laid down hath no Foundation of Truth in it, neither is it possible, for in all Cases where good and bad Wool are worked together, the Good must cover the Bad, so Shute must be good Wool, because it covers the Warp or Chane, as per Example.

In the Manufacture of Druggets or Cloth Serges the Warp is made of Worsted, which may be $\frac{1}{4}$,
the

the Shute is made of Woollen Yarn, which in Milling covers the Warp, insomuch that was they dressed as Cloth is it would be difficult to distinguish them from Cloth; therefore should one Pack of our Wool work up two or three Packs of theirs, ours would be entirely a Loss upon them, for their Course, &c. must cover our Fine Wool, so our Fine would be all loss, yet the *French* and *Dutch* have Wool amongst them purchased from *Spain* will mix with ours in the manner aforesaid, which they buy at 6 *d.* per Pound and upwards, and may be afforded by them cheaper when Manufactured with ours, than we can sell, Labour being so much cheaper, so ought to be prevented as far as we are able.

As to Wool of our own Growth, I've admitted to be 267000 Packs growing in *Great Britain*, and 100,000 for *Ireland*, together 367000, and wish they may prove so many, for I must confess that I am in Opinion I have made too high an Allowance because I would not be thought to lessen our Growth, for the same Reason *Webber* gave why he would not put Labour too high.

From the 367000 Packs of Wool growing in the Fleece, I deduct 5 per Cent for Winding, which is 18350, and reduceth the whole to 348650 Packs, of which 190,000 is sold as Combing Wool, from which in sorting is cast out unfit for Combing $\frac{1}{3}$, viz. 38000, by which Combing Wool is reduced to 152000 Packs, which in Washing and Combing wastes about $\frac{1}{4}$, viz. 38000, so that the Combed Wool Manufactured will be 114000 Packs.

The Cloathing Wool, which after winding &c. is 158650 Packs, to which I must add thrown from the Combing as unfit for that Business 38000 Packs, so then the Cloathing Wool will be 196650, To which I must also add Noyles that's taken from the Combed Wool $\frac{1}{8}$, which is 14250, makes the Cloathing Wool to be 210900 Packs,
from

from which I must deduct $\frac{1}{4}$ for waste 52725, that reduceth it to 158175 Packs.

These Wools are cast into various Sorts, which after the several Reductions, stands the Manufacturer one sort with another in 8 *d.* per Pound, for tho' the Wool taken from the Pasture and Noyles, and also some *Norfolk* Wool, &c. may not be worth more than 3 *l.* 10 *s.* per Pack, yet the *Suffex*, *Hampshire*, *Dorset*, *Somerset*, *Devonshire* *Wilts*, some part of *Gloucestershire*, all *Wales*, *Shropshire*, &c. are sold for 20 or 22 *l.* per Pack in the Fleece, others from 10 or 12 *l.* to 6 or 8 *l.* per Pack, are rather under than over valued at 8 *l.* per Pack, after the Reductions above.

As to Combed Wool I throw it into four sorts, as will be shewn after I have made the several Deductions as follows, and give for Labour 6 *l.* per Head per Annum, which I think is full as much as is earned one with another, there being many Children employ'd that can't get more then 6 *d.* per Week.

	Packs.		Packs.
Wool growing	367000		
Deduct for winding	18350		
5 per Cent.			
	348650		
Of which Combing		Cloathing Wool	158650
Wool, so called, is	190000	Add thereto the	
Deduct for Wool		Combing Wool	38000
cast out unfit to	38000	cast out	
Comb.		Ditto for Noyles	14250
	152000		
Ditto for waste $\frac{1}{4}$	38000	Deduct for waste	210900
	114000	Manufacturing	52725
Combing Wool			
		Remains Cloathing	158175
		Wool	

The whole is Cloathing Wool 158175 Packs.
Combing Wool

 114000

Total 272175 Packs

I therefore begin my Calculation with Cloathing Wool, viz.

Packs.	l.	No. of Hands (Wool & Lab.)
158175	Of Wool at 8l. per Pack	1265400
	Labour at 16 —	2530800
		3796200
	Combing Wool 114000	
	Packs. l.	
3000	For Stockings at — 14	42000
	Labour at — 80	240000
		282000
2000	Ditto at — — 12	24000
	Labour at — — 60	120000
		144000
12000	For Norwich at — 10	120000
	Labour at — — 50	600000
		720000
4000	For Cloths, Serges, Druggets, and 3 times combing	40000
	Labour — — 30	120000
		160000
3000	For London at — 10	30000
	Labour — — 50	150000
		180000
6000	For Country-made	54000
	Stuffs — — 9	192000
	Labour — — 32	246000
26000	Ditto at — — 8	208000
	Labour — — 28	728000
		936000
30000	Ditto at — — 7	210000
	Labour — — 22	660000
		870000
28000	Ditto at — — 6	168000
	Labour — — 16	448000
		616000
272175	Packs. Labr. 5788800	964799
		7950200

N. B. I should have taken off 14250 Packs, Noyles which is added to the Cloathing Wool from the Combing, but considering Part of the Waste, charged upon the Combing is the Noyles afore said, and the Combing not wasting so much in the further Manufactory, I have taken no Notice of it.

The Total Account is

<i>Packs.</i>	<i>Labour.</i>	<i>Hands employ'd.</i>	<i>Wool and Labour.</i>
272175	5788800l.	964799	7950200

I divide Labour by the Number of Packs, and it gives the Labour of each Pack, on an Avarage, about 20l. 16 s. 4 d. per Pack.

l.

Which makes Labour and Wool as }
above _____ } 7950200

I ought, according to what I have collected, and what I have observ'd, to deduct in this last Part of the Manufactory 5 per Cent. but have deducted but 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. more for Waste, then the Accompt will stand thus, }
Waste _____ } 1633050

_____ 6317150
Ditto for Home Consumption _____ 1000000
_____ 5317150
Remains for Foreign Export _____

And as to the Price I've valued Wool at, I am sure is not too much, for whatever it wastes in Washing and Winding, is not Wool, but Filth, imbib'd in the

the Fleece, yet I allow Wool hath bore a better Price by 2 *d.* or 2 *d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. in the Fleece, more especially Pasture or Combing Wool, which hath encreased upon us, by Inclosures, almost as much as the Demand is lessen'd by Printed Linnens, &c. and I don't see how it will advance again, unless the Royal Family, which is large, and occasions many Birth-days, should think proper (at least once a Year) to wear Worsted Stuffs, which may be Embellished in such a manner as to appear Splendid, and by that means bring them into a Fashion; and also if the Gentlemen would wear Duroys, or other Worsted Stuffs during the Summer, and on such Birth-days Embellished as aforesaid, it would not only render them Fashionable at home, but likewise in all our Colonies abroad, and would put the Manufacturers on emulating or vying with each other, as might in a great Measure restore the use of that Wool which is most heavy on our hands, and most coveted abroad.

I am now to beg your Lordships Pardon if I've in any wise exceeded the bounds I have laid down and promised to keep to in the beginning of this Essay, apprehending it may be said that I am warm, to which I answer (as the Doctor did under the Character of the Draper) I am so, and as I think with great Justice filled with Resentment against such as I apprehend, instead of promoting the Publick Good, which they pretend to, are fomenting and raising Disturbances amongst us; but I had no design to give Umbrage to any Body of Men, or single Man, and am sorry if the Subject hath led me into any unbecoming Expression. I therefore shall not derogate from the Merit due to any of the Persons I may be thought to have been severe upon; for if Mr. *Webber* was the first that thought of a Publick Registry (which undoubtedly is the best

I

Method

Method for preventing the Smuggling our Wool as aforesaid) he ought to have the Merit of it and also be rewarded: But I have heard a Registry is an old Thing, and hath been upon or near the Coasts for many Years, how it hath been kept I can't account for; and I will be bold enough to say Mr. *Webber's* Scheme is such that cannot be fathomed. He proposing 122 Patentees shall be named, viz. one for each Country, and they and their Heirs to enjoy it for ever, without providing any Sallary either for them, their Successors, or their under Clerks, which must be very numerous, for no Man is to go any farther than the next Parish for his Permit, or any other Matter relating thereto. *So that if the Patentees, &c. are to Work for nothing they may easily be supposed to be liable to be corrupted.* But if such numbers as must be employed, and the Patentees be well paid for their Trouble, which ought to be, or none will accept of such a Trust for himself and his Heirs, it would be an insupportable Tax, if he proposeth his Patentees and Officers should be paid in Proportion to what he would give his Labourers in the Manufactory, for I was told by one of his Friends if it was left to the Management of the Government it would require 20000 Hands, therefore I imagine he would employ so many.

But in my opinion 150 for *Great Britain* (which is about the Number of Supervisors in the Excise) and call'd by the Name of Wool Inspectors, with the help of the Excise Officers, which are very numerous and much at Leisure at Shear Time, when Malting and Brewing are out of Season, will be sufficient to Register all the Wool that is clipt. But as a further Aid all the Sheep Shearers may be admitted at the Quarter Sessions preceeding Shear Time, and be Sworn to make a true return of the
number

number of Fleeces and Weight, and to whom it belongs, and the Place where housed, and transmit a true Account thereof to the Persons that may be employed by the Government to Register the same, for which they may be paid 2 *d.* per Pack, and be liable to a Penalty on Fraud.

One hundred and fifty more Officers called Supervisors or Inspectors of the Woollen Manufactory, who shall not only attend at, but affix the Seal of Proof and Quality to every piece of Goods so inspected, and transmit to the Office aforesaid an Account, for which the Government shall receive 2 *s.* per Pack : But as those Laws cannot be made 'till the sitting of Parliament, it is humbly proposed that a short Bill may be brought into the House to make an Enquiry into the Produce of the Growth of the last Year, by which means your Lordships will be able to judge what's proper to fix the Price to be paid per Pack, in such manner as the Crown may not suffer, nor the Grower oppress.

What I farther proposed hinting is, what I fear may happen, that the necessitous Farmer, when there is a glut of Wool, as there always will be at Shear Time, by bringing *Irish* Wool over, as to render the Commodity cheaper rather than dearer, and how that may be prevented without a Monopoly : But that may be thought of when the Parliament shall enter upon the Bill.

My Lords, I can't well dismiss this Affair without taking some notice of an Expression dropt from Mr. *London*, relating to the Woollen Manufactory, tho' he commends the care of the Government in encouraging the Linnen in *Ireland*, and asserts that all the Manufactures in both Kingdoms are not worthy to be mentioned in Competition with it, that alone employing more Hands than all the other put together ; in which I hope he is

much mistaken. I shall begin therefore with *Ireland*, if we may guess by what comes here, it's computed that we have had for some Years past about 20000 Packs of *Irish* Woollen and Bay Yarn, which are sold on an Average for 10 *d.* per Pound, viz. 120000 *l.* and that they bring over *Irish* Linnens to the amount of 500000 *l.* Annually; so the Manufacture of Linnen is 4 Times the value of the Woollen. I believe the same will be admitted for *North Britain*. As to *South Britain* and *Wales*, the Case is not the same as to Linnens, tho' we have several Fabricks of that sort here too, viz. in *Lancashire*, *Wales*, *Warwick*, *Leicestershire*, and part of *Northamptonshire*, as also in *Suffolk*: But we have large Manufactures of Silk, 300 Weight of which the Golden Fleece (an Author of their own) saith will give Employment to 593 Persons for the same Time that 3 Packs of Wool doth to 366: Therefore these with our Cottons made for Printing, I'm afraid will ballance the Woollen, exclusive of Tinn, Copper, Lead, Iron, Leather, and the Manufactures from them; as also all Clock-work, Plate-work, all manner of Toys, whether in Wood, Cabinet-work, Glass Works, and Buttons and *Manchester* Goods, &c. Therefore your Lordships as Guardians of our whole Commerce will take care not only to preserve, but improve every Branch of it.



POSTSCRIPT.

SINCE my sending this Essay to the Press, there has appear'd the *Draper's Reply to some Remarks on the Consequences of Trade*, which seem to be taken from my Essay, that was wrote before the Rising of the last Parliament, and would have appeared much sooner, but was postponed by Advice of some I esteemed Friends, to whom I shew'd it, who told me they thought 'twas better to stifle the Appearance of it, till some little Time before the Sitting of the present; these *Remarks*, tho' I have endeavour'd by all Enquiries, I can't find out. I should be sorry if I should suggest wrong, because it's possible the Author of them may, in some Measure, have thought in the same Way I have.

The *Reply*, wrote by the Doctor, is much of a Piece with his *Consequences*, under the Character of the *Draper*, with this Difference only, that he has own'd a great Part of what has been charged upon him, with Regard to his Ignorance at Calculation, and says *London* and *Webber* were answerable for them, tho' I shall shew the contrary.

In his Address to the Citizens of *London*, after haranguing them upon their Loyalty to their Prince and Attachment to the true Church of *England*, the Liberties of the Subject, and their constant Care in all their Struggles for their just Rights as *Englishmen*, tells them that Mr. *Webber*, by the said Attachments, has reduc'd himself to Want, and recommends they would, in a publick Capacity,

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city, raise him a Support equal to the Sufferings he underwent, as he says, for their Good, which all Men, not in the *French* Interest, ought to contribute to; then says, the late Lord Mayor, meaning Mr. *Parsons*, he is well informed would have moved it in Council; and if so popular a Magistrate had made such a Motion, none would dare to object against it.

Here this Pretender to Knowledge shews his Ignorance, as he has done in his *Consequences*; for that Gentleman, whose Ashes should not be raked into, being in his private Capacity a good-natur'd, honest Gentlemen was the only one, perhaps, in *Great-Britain* that could be suspected of being in the *French* Interest, having peculiar Favours granted him from that Court, which never was conferred upon any Citizen of *London* before: Indeed, he had the Misfortune, (with the Doctor in his Calculations) in his first Mayoralty, by Calculation and Computation to declare two Sheriffs elected; which upon Examination, the Court of Aldermen set aside, and confirm'd those he had rejected. Again, he doth not consider the Attachment of the People he applies to, who have lately conferred Honours upon one who has been charged in Publick as a Favourer of the Smugglers of Wool, upon no other Reason but that they may keep him firm to their Party. Neither can it be suppos'd, that Sir *John*; however he may have been influenced by Party Prejudice, or averse to Smuggling our Wool (as I hope and believe he is) will ever give his Vote to pass an Act, to put it in the Power of any one Man, or Number of Men, to set up a Bubble, by which our Country may be cheated of many Millions, tho' recommended by a Doctor of the Church of *England*,
who

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who scandalizes his Order by his extravagant Exaggerations, and vile Prevarications, which he now endeavours to put on *Webber* and *London*, tho' hath passed them in a different Manner on the Publick in his *Consequences*, as followeth, p. 32, in his *Postscript*. ' I should think also that common Modesty should be a reasonable Method to distrust, in all Cases that are not very clear, for as much as it may commonly be suppos'd that an Author writing upon a Subject so little understood, and where he might expect so much Opposition, to be a better Master of it, than a Person, who, perhaps, never thought of it before, and passes Judgment extempore : What Discouragements are these Instances to such as are willing to write in the Service of their King and Country ; equally absurd are those who are in such violent Pain for fear the Calculations should be set too high, when they are convinc'd they are high enough to ruin us.' In Calculations of this Nature, it's absolutely impossible to be perfectly accurate, because the Facts upon which they are grounded, cannot be certainly asserted, tho' the oftener, and the more I think of them, am convinc'd they are rather set too low ; besides, he has added to some of *London's* Calculations some Things not to be found in his Book.

In Page 19, of his Book, quoted by me in the Essay, where I have said, that *Ireland* might be easily overcome by the Assistance of *France*, &c. occasion'd by our oppressing them. Lest he should cavil at my taking his Meaning, without his Words exactly copy'd, I here give it in his own Words : ' In *Ireland* there are three, if not four, Papists to one Protestant, not divided as formerly, and headed by the Chiefs of different Parties, and all

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‘ all fighting against one another ; those Heads
 ‘ are now no more, and those Parties are united,
 ‘ and all in such a State, that they would think
 ‘ any Change desirable : They are at present in-
 ‘ deed without Arms or Military Knowledge, but
 ‘ *France* and *Spain* have 15000 of their Country-
 ‘ men, who may both carry them Arms, and teach
 ‘ them the Use of them : And the miserable Con-
 ‘ dition of that Nation, which may make it so
 ‘ easy for *France* to gain them over to her Interest,
 ‘ has been owing to a most stupid Piece of *Eng-
 ‘ lish* Policy, dictated by Avarice and Jealousy.
 ‘ The seven Letters above-mention’d demonstrate,
 ‘ that we have been injuring our selves by cramp-
 ‘ ing and distressing them.’ *Whether this be not
 High Treason, let him appeal to the Tryal of Alger-
 non Sidney, and I then fancy he need not be afraid
 to go into Smithfield ; but must acknowledge, if he’s
 not drawn upon a Sledge to Tyburn, it’s owing en-
 tirely to the Lenity of the Government.*

Then canting first, and bullying afterwards, that
 he had rather die in the Field of Battle, than live
 in the Terror of Exile ; and says, he has not the
 least Dislike to the Ministry, any farther than he
 has receiv’d Personal Disobligations from them ;
 and as *Cato* said of *Cæsar*, *Let the Ministry pre-
 serve the Kingdom*, and the *Draper* is their Friend,
 either to Vote, or, as *Mr. London* said to Sir *W—
 Y—*, to write for them. It’s all one to me, as
 to my own Personal Views, who is in the Admi-
 nistration. I have no Expectations from either ; if
 I had, I would sacrifice them all to the Common
 Welfare. I never will belong to any Party ; the
 Good of the Publick is the only Cause which I
 espouse : And were my own Father at the Head of
 the Administration, I wou’d oppose him in any
 Measures

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Measures I apprehended to be opposite to the Good of the Community. *This is a fine Declaration, but the Dr. is full of them throughout his whole Libel, so not to be regarded.*

He relates, in Page 9, the silly Story of the Letter to Mr. *Webber* from his Servant, who asserts he had it from Count ——— : That it would be to no Purpose to pursue his Scheme ; for it was stipulated that *France* should have what Wool she had occasion for from *England* ; and to give him something of a better Character than a Journeyman Comber, has now made him ride in his Coach and Six ; yet *Munn* mentions no such Persons, except at *Aberville*, and those are the *Van Robis*, who settled there long before *Webber's* Memory.

Page 11, in the *Remarks*. Supposing there be a private Stipulation or Contract with *France* for our Wool, in Consideration of some equivolent Services, we judge much more favourable of the Conduct of the Ministry than this pretended Friend the Remarker does ; for if the Exportation of our Wool be so great a Calamity as he acknowledges it to be, if there be an absolute necessity of stopping it, if some more effectual Law be wanting, why was not some Law enacted 20 Years ago ; why have we given away so many Millions to our Enemies, which have enabled them to take the Ballance of Power out of our Hands, to insist, to demand, and prescribe Laws to all Europe : Has this vast Complement been made to *France* without some Advantage in return ? The Remarker supposes the M—— deliberately intended the Ruin of his King and Country : But as 'tis possible for the wisest Politician to be mistaken, it was better upon the whole, to consent to their having our Trade than by keeping it ourselves, and provoke them to Quarrel with us :

K

This

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This was only an Error in Judgment, and whatever the Remarker may think, I am more inclined to judge thus favourable of his Intentions from the Language of his avowed Friends. *This I think like the rest of the Doctors villainous Prevarications, and scandalous way of abusing the Minister, making him a Betrayer of his Country, and his avowed Friends the greatest Ideots, however in Politicks, for it's well known every Nation has a Right to settle their own Commerce, without giving Umbrage to any other State whatever.*

Page 3. Says any Man that makes the Calculations of the Growth of Wool low (by which I suppose he means not so high as he does) writes like an Enemy to his Country, then gives up his own Abilities at Computations, tho' he has espoused them in the Draper, and charges them all professedly taken from Mr. London; then refers to London's Answer to the Remarks in the London Magazine for August last, which seems to be a Panegyrick wrote betwixt the Doctor and London upon themselves, but indeed he has introduced two Methods of Calculation, by which he would make it appear the Growth of Wool of Great Britain and Ireland amounts to more than 1500,000 Packs per Annum: In one he supposes the People of Great Britain and Ireland eat one with another one Pound of Mutton Weekly, tho' he has made 2000,000 of People in England and Wales only upon the Parish Books, $\frac{1}{4}$ part of which are old, and Children unfit for Labour. The Inhabitants of Ireland are $\frac{3}{4}$ if not $\frac{4}{5}$ th Roman Catholicks; 19 out of 20 (not living better than the Negroes in our Plantations) and many of them don't eat a Pound of Mutton in a Year, therefore it may be fairly computed they don't eat one with another $\frac{2}{3}$ of a Pound Weekly, which on a fair Reckoning, will not make so many Packs as I have done.

But

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But before I proceed farther on this Calculation, I beg Leave to finish with my Dr. in which I'll be as short as I can, and then proceed with Regard to the Calculation. Could any Man but him, this Man, under a sacred Character, who is no Fool, therefore must be a K——, have dared to declare, Page 27, in the *Draper*, that he writes from Conviction? viz. But I call God to witness, that I write from full Conviction, and with the most upright Intention, not from any Personal Disobligations, or with any Party Views; I am entirely satisfy'd, that the King and the Nation must unavoidably be undone, unless an immediate Stop be put to the Exportation of our Wool, and that nothing but a universal Registry in Charter can effectually do it: I gave a Hint, that this honest and ingenious Projector seems to be rais'd up by a particular Act of Providence, to save us from Ruin: He has found out what no-body could contrive, tho' many have rack'd their Invention ever since Queen Elizabeth's Time; and this Scheme is far, very far, (to my own Knowledge I speak it) from being all that he can propose to the Government for the Interest of his Majesty, and the Welfare of the Community: In short, I never yet convers'd with any one who seems to me to understand Trade and Commerce in general so well, or how to improve the Trade or Interest of the Kingdom in particular, and I never yet met with his Superior, hardly his Equal, in Integrity; he was told, that he would but once repent his not coming into the Proposals that have been made him; but not the two hundred Millions that we might have saved by keeping our Wool at home, nor more than twice that Sum, which *France* has acquir'd by getting it: Nothing can make him repent his having endeavour'd to save his King and Country from Ruin.

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All which is wrote to justify a silly Story, told by him, Page 23, in the same Book where he tells you *Webber* was offered 20000*l.* and his Statue erected at *Blackwell-Hall*; is it possible to suppose this Gentleman (for so I must call him, whilst he is possess'd of his Habit) could imagine this was said any otherwise than by way of Sneer? Doth he know any Body that will buy, what is call'd in low Life, a *Pig in a Poke*, or, rather a *Poke without a Pig*? Yet he carries it further, after declaring the extraordinary Knowledge of Mr. *Webber*, as before recited, that the said *Webber* would not repent refusing those Proposals as above.

Monstrum horrendum! Can this Man be said to be a Lover of his Country, that will suffer it to lose two hundred Millions, and that Nation he esteems her Enemy to gain more than twice the Sum, and still keep the Thing a Secret. What he means by a Saving his King and Country from Ruin, I can't imagine, unless it be him at *Avignon* he means; where several, who have made as large Professions to the Love of the King and Country as the Dr. hath, have made their Assylum. He finds Fault with such as differ from him, and calls them *Republicans*, &c. tho' the People who espouse him, and some of which he quotes in his Writings, are full of the Panegyric Letters in Favour of *Oliver Cromwell*, &c. to wit, the *Daily Post*, the *Champion*, *Craftsman*, and *Common Sense*. He endeavours to excuse himself, by saying, he has not excited the People to Rebellion. What he has prevail'd upon them to do, is only to make Remonstrances. Let him look back to 1641, and he'll find, that such like Remonstrances, spirited up by Mr. *Webber's* ever faithful Citizens of *London* to the Crown, brought the Royal Martyr to the Block.

To

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To proceed to their Calculation, I have examined ; and allowing for *Great Britain* and *Ireland* the Number of Inhabitants, Men, Women, and Children, to be twelve Millions, which I believe is more than can fairly be admitted ; therefore allowing $\frac{3}{4}$ of a Pound of Mutton *per Head per Week* for $\frac{3}{4}$ of them, the Remainder being aged, or Children, and Catholicks in *Ireland*, &c. it then appears there is no more than 356200 Packs of Wool growing in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*: But these Gentlemen make no Standard for any Computation, at least for the last ; therefore it would be necessary they should consult their Books, and learn what is proper to be exhibited to the Publick, before they do it with such Effrontery. I think the Dr. in his *Reply* to the *Remarks*, has asserted, that more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 1500,000 Packs they have said we grew last Year, *France* had already got. Had they known the Tonage of a Pack of Wool, they would have found the Shipping to carry that Quantity, must, in a manner, have cover'd the Sea, it requiring near 8000 Ships of one hundred Tons each to have carry'd it over ; yet few or none of these have been discover'd.

E R R A T A.

PAGE 3. Line 37, for *tototally* read *totally*. P. 4. l. 9, for *near thing* read *any thing near*. P. 5. lines 16 and 17, for *Hewford* read *Hereford*. P. 5. l. 22, for *thereby* read *thoroughly*. P. 9. lines 19 and 22, for 45,0000 read 450,000. P. 9. l. 32, for *Register* read *Registry*. P. 9. l. 34. for *produces* read *produced*. P. 14. l. 12, for *Register* read *Registry*. P. 14. l. 21, for *Register* read *Registry*. P. 18. Line the last, for 933966 read 964799. P. 19. l. 15, read *be after must*. P. 26. l. 28, for *Nogles* read *Noyles*. P. 34. l. 29, for 100 l. read 100 Sheep. P. 36. l. 23, after *Remainder* read *viz.* 750,000 P. 44. l. 30, for *Envasion* read *Evafion*. P. 45. l. 33, for *Europes* read *Europe*.

72 91 95 37 20 9

The first of these is the fact that the
 second of these is the fact that the
 third of these is the fact that the
 fourth of these is the fact that the
 fifth of these is the fact that the
 sixth of these is the fact that the
 seventh of these is the fact that the
 eighth of these is the fact that the
 ninth of these is the fact that the
 tenth of these is the fact that the

1 2 3 4 5 6

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses, which are arranged in two columns. The names are written in a cursive script, and the addresses are written in a more formal, printed style. The list includes names such as "John Doe", "Jane Smith", and "Robert Brown", and addresses such as "123 Main Street", "456 Elm Street", and "789 Oak Street".

